Morris's
HAVANA
[illegible]
Cigarettes

Have the sweet nuttiness and fine flavour of a good Havana Cigar,

20 for 1/-

of all Tobacconists.

B. Morris & Sons, Ltd., London, E.

WASTE NOT! *Cut Out the "J.B." Fox Coupon on Page 22.*

JOHN BULL

VOL. XXVII. No. 711. SATURDAY, JANUARY 17, 1920. TWOPENCE.

[Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.]

Edited by HORATIO BOTTOMLEY

JELKS'

HIGH-GRADE
SECONDHAND
FURNITURE

W. JELKS & SONS,
263, 265, 267, 269, 271, 273, 275
HOLLOWAY RD.,
LONDON, N.
Depositories: [illegible], Eden Grove,
(Adjg.)

Half Cost and Double Wear of Cheap New Goods. [illegible] worth of stock. Established over 50 years. Call and view magnificent display of best Secondhand Furniture.

Resting but Watchful

THE M.P. AND THE HANGMAN

By Appointment to H.M. The King.

Always Reliable

The great virtue of Ideal Milk is its absolute reliability—the same perfect quality in every tin—the purest and richest cows' milk concentrated to Rich Cream Thickness. Only water is removed—nothing is added.

IDEAL
MILK

Guaranteed absolutely pure and much Richer in Cream than milk produced to the U.S.A. Government Standard. Therefore always insist on "Ideal", and beware of inferior substitutes.

Sold Everywhere.
Cash Price 11d. & 6d. per tin.

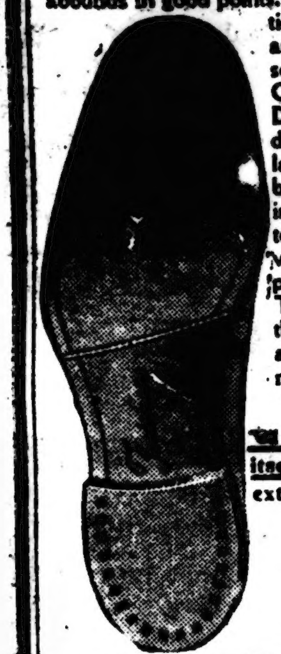
A dainty book of recipes in which "Ideal" can be exclusively used in place of fresh milk will be sent post free on application.

NESTLE'S, 6 & 8, EASTCHEAP, E.C.3

BARRATT'S
REMARKABLE INNOVATION!

DOUBLE SOLES: DOUBLE WEAR.

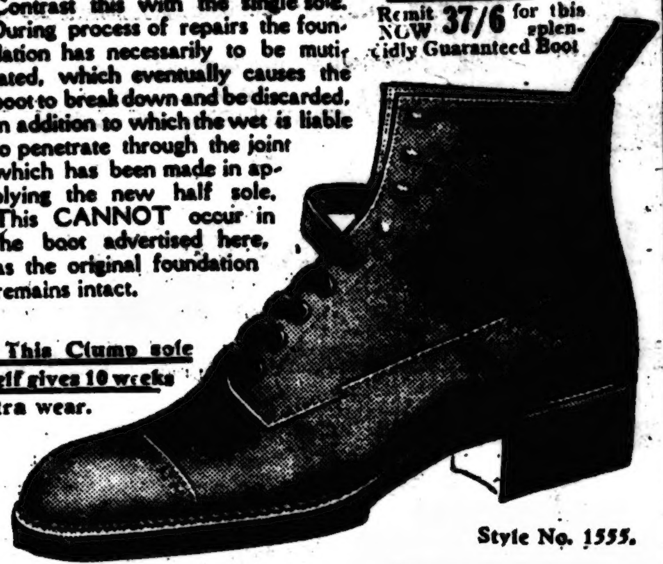
THE illustration represents a DOUBLE SOLE Boot—in other words, ECONOMY in its true sense. The boot itself is constructed from solid leather, the upper being specially selected Box Calf. The additional sole which is fitted, although rendering it eminently suitable for the winter weather, does not add appreciably to the weight, and abounds in good points. No matter how many times new soles are attached, the foundation of the boot remains undisturbed, the rigidity being maintained, and, unlike ordinary footwear, fresh "Clump" soles can be affixed so long as the other parts remain good. Contrast this with the single sole. During process of repairs the foundation has necessarily to be mutilated, which eventually causes the boot to break down and be discarded, in addition to which the wet is liable to penetrate through the joint which has been made in applying the new half sole. This CANNOT occur in the boot advertised here, as the original foundation remains intact.



This Clump sole itself gives 10 weeks extra wear.

Style No. 1555.

Remit NOW **37/6** for this splendidly Guaranteed Boot



Style No. 1555.

SPECIAL SHOW
this week at London Depots:
36. OXFORD STREET, W.
21 & 22, CHEAPSIDE, E.C.
57. FENCHURCH ST., E.C.
166. STRAND, W.C.
285. HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.
12, TOTTENHAM Ct. Rd., W.

Send **3d.** *postage for our large Illustrated Catalogue of Ladies', Gents', and Children's footwear.*

SIZES: All Gents' sizes stocked from 5 to 12 (size 12 1/- extra). Each size made in four different widths: narrow, medium, wide, and extra wide. If size is not known, send pencilled outline of stockinged foot. Boots exchanged or money refunded if unsuitable.

W. BARRATT & Co., Ltd.
(Dept. J),
"Footshape" Boot Works, NORTHAMPTON.

TRADE MARK FACE

'Ever-Ready' Safety Razor

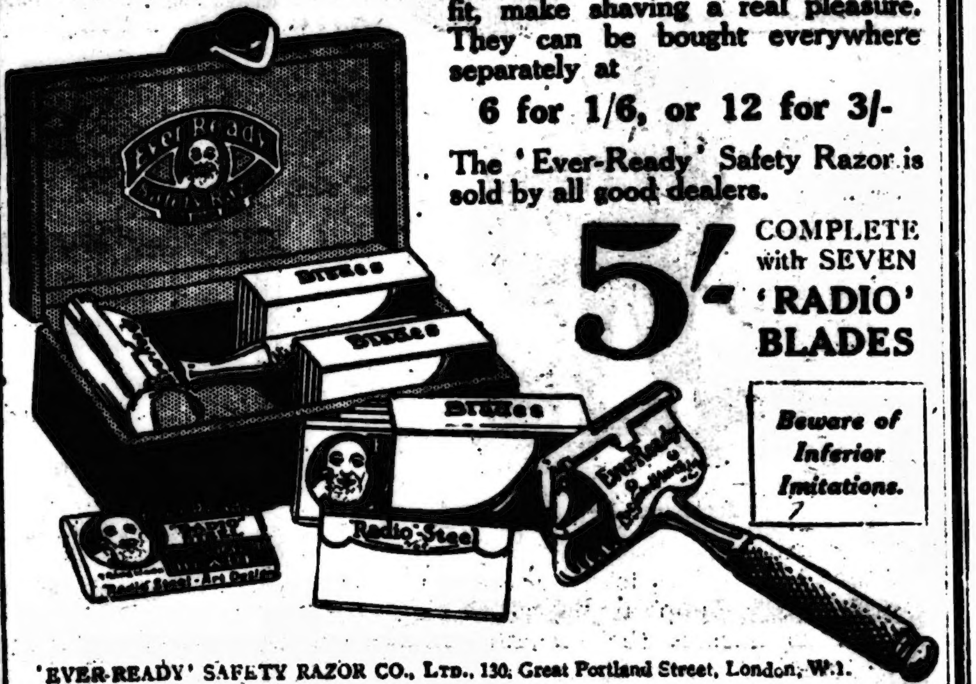
SPEND 5/- to-day on an 'Ever-Ready' Shaving Outfit and get to your work each morning clean shaven and punctual. The sturdy little frame is good for a life-time of service. The famous X3X temper,

'Radio' Blades

you get in each 'Ever-Ready' outfit, make shaving a real pleasure. They can be bought everywhere separately at

6 for 1/6, or 12 for 3/-

The 'Ever-Ready' Safety Razor is sold by all good dealers.



5/- COMPLETE with SEVEN 'RADIO' BLADES

Beware of Inferior Imitations.

'EVER-READY' SAFETY RAZOR CO., LTD., 130, Great Portland Street, London, W.1.

I will teach YOU to play brilliantly without Drudgery or Failure.

In a few months, with less than half the usual practice, my modern, progress-compelling

Piano Correspondence Lessons

will give you such a grip of the Keyboard and ease in reading **ordinary music**, that you shall play with spirit and feeling Songs, Marches, Dances, Hymns, and many of the famous Classical Gems.

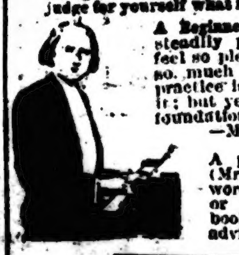
I guarantee success to any average person.

Adult Beginners *need not know a note to start.*

Send a card to-day for my illuminating little book,

"MIND, MUSCLE & KEYBOARD."

Read about my System, see what hundreds, of all ages and stages, say it has done for them, and judge for yourself what it can do for you.



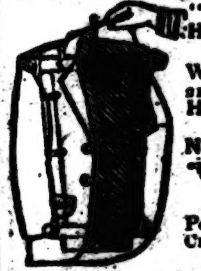
A Beginner writes:—"I am still steadily progressing. Really I feel so pleased to think I can do so much myself. As you say, practice is needed, and plenty of it; but yet—there's the splendid foundation! Oh! I feel it is fine!"
—Mrs. D. (Pendleton M/C).

A postcard with full address (Mrs., Miss or Mr.) and the word Moderate, Elementary, or Beginner, will bring my book, with form for free advice and opinion, by return.

MR. BECKER, 81, Bristol House, Holborn Viaduct, LONDON, E.C. 1.

POSH SLACKS

Perfect Crease—Longer Wear.
Bought by Thousands of Officers.
A Necessity for Camp or Civil Life.



"ALPHA" PORTABLE
Handiest Trouser Press ever made.

Weighs 20 ozs. Packs into 21½ in. by 2 in. by 3 in. Hangs in Wardrobe when in use.
No. 1 post free U.K. **7/-**

No. 2 Press and Suit Hanger combined. Post free U.K. **8/6**

Cross Cheque or P.O. "London City & Midland Bank."

MAY & CO. (Dept. 41), 3, Tudor St., London, E.C.4.

DR. RIDGE'S FOOD gives health, strength and comfort to Invalids, Convalescents and the Aged. It makes milk more digestible.

RIDGE'S FOOD.

Doctors recommend it. Thousands enjoy it. Try it for supper. Tins, 1/3, 2/6 & 5/-.

TATCHO
The HAIR GROWER

Mr. Geo. R. Sims' discovery 1/3, 2/9, 4/6

GET IT FREE!

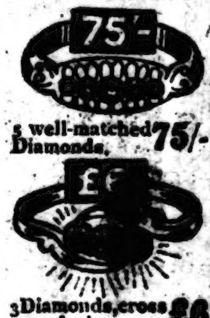
FREE BOOK OF AMAZING BARGAINS

Send your address on a postcard NOW and get your copy of H. SAMUEL'S big

FREE BOOK OF 3,000 MONEY SAVING BARGAINS.

H. Samuel's vast sales enable him to offer Jewellery, Watches, Plate, etc., at next to Factory Prices that mean a big Saving for you. Write now!

H. SAMUEL LTD.
190, MARKET ST.
MANCHESTER.



5 well-matched Diamonds, **75/-**

3 Diamonds, cross over design, **£6**

Severe Nerve and Stomach Trouble.

Neuritis, Neuralgia and Indigestion Cured by Dr. Cassell's Tablets.

Mrs. Williams

Mrs. Williams, Alwyn Cottage, Whitby, near Chester, says: "After an attack of pleurisy about three years ago, I was left very weak, and I cannot describe how nervous and restless I felt. For as much as a week at a time I never seemed to get any sleep at all. This, of course, made me weaker than ever. I had little desire for food, and when I did eat pain was sure to follow. I used to think I had kidney trouble and took things for it, but there was no relief. I suffered also with flatulence and a nasty sick feeling, and the headaches I endured were awful. They were like neuralgia. In my left arm, too, there was a dull, gnawing pain which I believe was neuritis. The indigestion had become so bad by this time that I was told my stomach was ulcerated.

"At last I got Dr. Cassell's Tablets and then the relief came. I began to sleep at night and the pain and indigestion lessened. I grew stronger daily till in quite a short time I felt as well as before my illness."

Dr. Cassell's Tablets

HOME PRICES 1/3 & 3/-

the 3/- size being the more economical. Sold by Chemists in all parts of the world. Ask for Dr. Cassell's Tablets, and refuse substitutes.

Are the Recognised Home Remedy for—

- Nervous Breakdown
- Nerve Paralysis
- Neurasthenia
- Sleeplessness
- Anaemia
- Kidney Trouble
- Indigestion
- Wasting Diseases
- Palpitation
- Vital Exhaustion

Specially valuable for Nursing Mothers and during the Critical Periods of Life.

FREE INFORMATION

as to the suitability of Dr. Cassell's Tablets in your case sent on request.—Dr. Cassell's Co., Ltd., Chester Rd., Manchester, England.

JOHN BULL

"Peace hath her victories no less renowned than war."
Milton.

The Paper on which the Sun Never Sets.

Politics without Party—Criticism without Cant:
Without Fear or Favour, Rancour or Rant.

"For forms of government let fools contest:
Whate'er is best administered is best."—*Pope.*

Vol. XXVII. No. 711. Week ending Saturday, January 17th, 1920. Twopence.

"THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL."

[*The Editor discourses upon passing events and topics of the day.*]

Mr. Churchill's Slip.

Surely when Mr. Churchill said that a Labour Government would by its "incompetence" bring the country to ruin, he meant to say by its "inexperience." A verbal slip may sometimes amount to a blazing indiscretion.

Mr. Asquith's Medals.

The impartial award of war medals to the Prime Minister and Mr. Asquith is a striking illustration of the political aloofness of the Crown—which knows no Party, and recognises, without distinction, honest services.

The Coal Ramp.

Without a moment's delay, the Coal Controller must stop the ramp at present going on—designed to deprive the domestic consumer of the benefit of the reduction in price. Home requirements must come before export trade.

A *Daily Mail* Loss.

Our sincere sympathy with the *Daily Mail* on the loss of its brilliant contributor, Twells Brex—one of the few "big" writers of recent times. And how few there *have* been!

Railway "Leaders."

Funny—isn't it?—that whereas the Railwaymen's leaders claim the right to declare a strike without consulting the men, they shy at making peace on their own responsibility!

If a Strike Comes.

If, by the way, another strike *should* come, you will see whether we were right when we said that preparations on a large scale had been made before Christmas. It will *not* be a peaceful and orderly strike.

A Great Ambassador.

We heartily congratulate the Prime Minister upon having induced Lord Riddell—the proprietor of that great organ of public opinion, the *News of the World*—again to accompany him to Paris—this time to help to put the finishing touches to the Peace Treaty. We hope, however, his Lordship's absence will not be too prolonged—although, of course, journalism's loss will be the Empire's gain.

Unclaimed Bank Balances.

Before dealing with the egregious Report presented to the House of Commons, we are waiting for the publication of the evidence taken by the Select Committee. Apart from the fact that it was settled by a bare quorum (and in our absence), it proceeds upon the assumption that the evidence of the Bankers themselves upon such a matter is sacrosanct. It should be remembered that in the case of a Select Committee there is no Minority Report.

Housing Shortage.

A reader makes the practical suggestion that, to cope with the housing shortage in shipping districts, our surplus warships should be placed at the disposal of the various yards for the temporary accommodation of the men. An excellent notion.

Americanese.

Thus the *Los Angeles Times*, in summing up its opinion of our recent straight talk to America: "It is a pity the Huns didn't get the uncouth creature and make glycerine of him—for then he might have served a useful purpose, and at least passed as a smooth article." Well, they did have a try!

A Candid Youth.

Apropos of this outburst, we would commend to our contemporary this extract from a letter just received from a Californian reader: "We over here are quite content to stand pat and play the hand we have—containing, as it does, all the good cards," which, to continue the Poker—or Yankee Bluff—simile, means that Britain will have to "pay to see them."

Where's Henderson?

We beg to direct the attention of our right hon. friend—whose tearful speech against the issue of Premium Bonds is still ringing in our ears—to an advertisement in the *Yorkshire Telegraph and Star* of the winning numbers in the "Subscription Draw of the Holland Labour Party." The sinfulness of it!

The Problem of the Officer.

The suicide of Colonel Hugh Westmacott, after searching in vain for employment, is a sad reminder of the pitiable plight in which so many demobilised officers now find themselves. Poor fellow—we knew him well, and in his farewell letter, received by us the day after his death, he expresses the hope that we "may be spared for many years for the good of our great Empire." R.I.P.

Industrial Amalgamations.

Has it occurred to Trade Union leaders that the recent large number of industrial amalgamations is designed as a bulwark against possible Labour troubles! And, after all, if employees combine why shouldn't employers? Speaking quite impartially, we reiterate our view that the only solution of the threatened deadlock is (1) a decent wage to the workers; (2) a reasonable interest upon capital, and remuneration for the enterprise of the employer; and (3) an ultimate division between masters and men of the surplus. Think it over!

"The Gospel of Hate."

Such is the description given by the Pacifist Press of our attitude towards Germany. We make no quarrel with the phrase. To Hell with Germany!

Our Tory Blood.

We confess that it is not without a pang that we read of the dismantling and sale of historic town and country mansions. "The stately homes of England—how beautiful they stand," will soon be a sentiment of the past.

The Law.

In the case now pending in the Palatine Court, the claim of the plaintiffs is for £30,000—and the Judge has ordered them to give security for costs for—£30,000! Thus we see that not only is the law "a ass," but a very expensive one.

A Bustling Understudy.

"Every country has its Bottomleys and its *Morning Posts*; we may blush for them since they can't do it for themselves," says the *Daily News*. As a matter of fact, whenever we wish to blush we just read that article which appeared in our contemporary on the eve of the war.

History Repeating Itself.

This is from *Punch* of August 20th, 1859: "Newspapers are intolerable nuisances, but the other day we walked up to the bookstall and asked for *John Bull*—that being the only paper which an Englishman may read without being disgusted with low revolutionary sentiments." 'Twas ever thus.

The *Deutschland*.

Time is getting short for Londoners desirous of inspecting the German monster submarine. As soon as the weather breaks she will start for her coastal tour, but for a little while longer will be standing off the Charing Cross Pier, where a launch conveys visitors to and from the vessel—the proceeds of the exhibition going to King George's Fund for Sailors.

A Sunday Boon.

Thus one of our readers: "On Sunday last, during my evening stroll, I was attracted by a crowd of some hundred people outside Earl's Court Station. With natural curiosity, I made for the spot—only to learn that it was waiting for the arrival of the *Sunday Evening Telegram*, and when, a few minutes later, a motor van drew up with the latest edition, there was a great scramble to secure copies." Our enterprising contemporary has undoubtedly revolutionised the drab monotony of Sunday night.

Local Limerick.

(Sir Edgar Speyer has sold to Mr. S. B. Joel his entire holdings in the Underground Electric Railways of London.)

There's a Speyer who bargained to sell
The pits o'er which Londoners dwell;
Should the buyer, rash soul,
Need a still deeper hole,
He may yet deal with Hornie for Hades.

American Humour.

Some while back the *San Francisco Herald* published an article by J. Lawrence Toole, whereof the opening sentence is one of the funniest things we have read for a long time: "Two score of American fighting ships, the ships that won the war, swing to the tides in San Francisco Bay to-day. They are the ships of the new Pacific Fleet." Our own Toole was a great humorist. Has his mantle fallen upon J. Lawrence?

Decorated in the Workhouse.

For more than a year Walter Cleveland Foster has been an inmate of Newington Workhouse, suffering from shell shock. He was lately presented with the 1914 star by the Chairman of the Board of Guardians, who was moved to say that, "if ever there was a wreck of humanity it is this unfortunate man." Yet, for some unknown reason, he has been denied a pension and is branded with the hateful stigma of pauperism after serving his country. Now then, Sir Laming!

Sauce at Letchworth.

Recently a woman was charged 1s. 3d., instead of 10½d., for a bottle of sauce at the shop of a Letchworth grocer—the usual mistake, of course. The Anti-Profiteering Committee ordered the tradesman to refund 4½d., but he hadn't the change—so, says the local paper, he borrowed a ha'penny "amid some amusement, and mension was also made about the interest on the 4½d. overpaid, which was not agreed upon." If these profiteers were sent before Magistrates they wouldn't have half as much sauce and the proceedings wouldn't be a quarter as funny.

An Unfortunate Contrast.

At the recent general meeting of the Old Bushmills Distillery Company, the Chairman having congratulated the shareholders upon a "sound financial position," each Director was awarded a bonus of £400 for the years 1918 and 1919, while the staff received the warm thanks of the Company! No doubt the recipients of the Company's gratitude were deeply obliged, but who shall blame them if they suggest that a little bit of something to go with it might not have been amiss? Perhaps even now the Directors will think better of it, and seek to redress this palpable disparity of reward.

Wages at Newport.

Wages seem to run low at Newport (Mon.). A warehouseman, for some years employed by Messrs. Cordey, described by them as a good workman in whom they had every confidence, found £2 5s. a week insufficient to keep a wife and family. Want tempted him, and he took home food valued at £3. He was fined £3, or one month, the Bench saying they had dealt leniently with him. And at Newport Mental Hospital they require a male attendant, experienced. Wages, "£2 1s. 6d., with uniform, less 21s. per week for board and lodging, and 1s. 3d. per week for superannuation." A little sum in arithmetic shows what the man is actually to receive.

"A Conchy's Gall."

As we expected, the real ex-Service men of Derby did not attend Councillor Farrow's public lecture on "Why He is a Conscientious Objector." The men of the National Federation stayed away in their thousands, disdaining to honour such proceedings by their presence. Farrow's affair was like a family gathering, everybody being of the same queer kidney. The good men, ex-sailors and soldiers of Derby, gave it a miss in baulk contemptuously.

Schweppes's Clear Out.

Schweppes, Ltd., have obtained Ejection Orders against several tenants of their Deerfield cottages, most of whom are not only ex-Service men but old employees. After many years with the firm, the men returned to find a paltry and impossible wage offered to them; for this reason they had to seek employment elsewhere; and because they had to seek employment elsewhere, Schweppes claimed the cottages for other employees willing to accept the wages. The Magistrates had no option but to make the Orders demanded; but most people will judge that the firm might have behaved more leniently to men who have deserved well of their country.

☛ NEXT WEEK—for one week only.
Special 2nd. Round F.A. Cup-Tie Prize.
£500
MUST BE WON
FOR TEN WINNING TEAMS
or Next Largest Number of Winning Teams.
Don't miss this Wonderful Offer.

An Insulting Dole.

In the present state of national affairs economy is among the chief public virtues, but it must not be purchased at the cost of inhumanity. Now that the Old Age Pension has been raised to 10s. weekly, there can be no excuse for maintaining the starvation pittance of 5s. a week as permanent disablement benefit under the National Insurance Act. The figure was always a disgrace; it is now a crying scandal.

Pretty Mean.

There is a Canterbury fruit-grower employing several hands. One of them was working on Boxing Day, and an acquaintance asked if he got no holidays. It appears there is rather a puzzle in that. For the grower had given some of the men a Christmas Box of 7s. 6d. each, and followed it up by stopping 7s. 4d. each for Christmas Day. The bewildered men are wondering if they got 2d. each or a holiday! Anyway, it was pretty mean.

The Parsons' Grievance.

The average British workman would look down his nose if he were asked to pay rates not only on his dwelling-house, but on the total of his weekly wages as well. A parson has to live on his tithes, and it is not unnatural that the clergy should be up in arms at the impost. A West Country Vicar, with a stipend of £400 per annum, explains that out of this modest sum he has to pay not only the ordinary rates on the Vicarage, but £60 for rates on the tithe, £20 for Income Tax and £5 for Land Tax, so that when all deductions are made he is a long way from bloated affluence. People with three times his income are paying only a third as much towards the local rates. Surely no one can defend this anomaly.

Night Telephonists.

Night operators in the London Telephone Exchanges are just now comparing their lot with that of the railwaymen and raising a dust about the same. They work 54 hours a week—all through the holidays and no compensation allowed—for £1 15s. wages and £1 11s. war bonus. The lowest paid man in the railway service, it is pointed out, receives £2 a week and war bonus for 48 hours' day work.

Barred from the Bar.

Writing from Linford, in Sussex, an ex-corporal says he took his wife out on Boxing-day afternoon and "couldn't even get a glass of port." He roundly reviles the regulations which shut public houses so many hours during the day. "When Tommy Atkins went out to fight," says he, "little did he think that on his return he would be treated like a naughty child. It is outrageous." So we think.

Too Tardy.

A watchman on a schooner in dock at Greenock fell from the poop-deck at nine of the night and fractured his arm. In his trouble he went to the police-station, but there he was simply told to go to the Infirmary, some considerable distance away. The poor chap tried to get there, but collapsed in the street. Then, and not till then, was an ambulance procured. The Greenock police need not wait till a sufferer is at his last gasp before rendering assistance.

Merely a Misfortune.

Government was the latest pre-war employer of an ex-officer, but it can do nothing now. The War Office says it is helpless, and of course the Dis-Appointments Department is in the same boat. This from St. Ermin's is illuminating: "Every effort has been made to find suitable employment for you, and that the Department has not been successful is merely a matter of misfortune." When the misfortune falls on other shoulders, it seems that the Department regard it "merely" as nothing for them to worry about.

Not a Soul to Help.

A Rosyth newspaper tells how Hugh Bradley, a discharged soldier with one leg and a pension of 11s., came before Bailie Wilson. Bradley had committed the enormity of peddling without a certificate, and pleaded that he was "only trying to knock up a few coppers to get lodgings for the week-end." The Bailie had hard heart enough to fine the poor maimed fellow 5s. or 5 days, so reducing his pension for that week to 6s. What irks us is that nobody in Court was gentleman enough to pay the fine and buy Bradley a certificate. Even the Bailie might have done that small kindness without ruining his financial position.

A Disgrace to Derby.

Councillor W. R. Raynes is announced as one of the prospective parliamentary candidates for Derby, although he is an avowed Bolshevik. In his opinion, the Bolsheviks are "going to win out, inasmuch as they were following the lines of eternal truth." If he intends to convey that midnight murders, bestial outrages, and unspeakable tortures "follow the lines of eternal truth," he is a dangerous fool and an unholy liar. He is averse from captured German guns being accepted by the Derby Council and mounted as monuments of victory. It is a pity he and his like were not in range of one of them when it was in action. Derby should spue such a man (save the mark) out from their midst.

Local Limerick.

(A police-surgeon has been telling the Thames Magistrate that he has known only one drink make a man drunk.)

There once was a Cockney, a wonder,
Who made a most horrible blunder;
He got drunken and frisky
On one tot of whisky—
But it wasn't a tot 30-under!

A Cry from the Heart.

The housing problem must be pretty acute at Newport, Mon., judging by this advert. in a local paper:—"Wanted to rent as dwelling, by middle-aged couple, Underground Cellar, Stable, or Shed. Will pay 30s. weekly for accommodation. This advertisement is genuine." Yet officials still confab over the building of houses of wood and so on. Wood, by all means, to rub along with.

"Waiting for the Crockery."

Under the above heading we told of a reader who, starting housekeeping, placed an order for all his crockery with a firm in the Potteries. The result, as chronicled then, was unsatisfactory. Following our remarks, the firm speeded up, answered letters promptly, and offered to refund money for goods not despatched. Our correspondent, now happier, says it all "shows the effect of a few lines of print." Much, however, depends on the journal in which those lines appear.

Favouring the Huns.

If only on account of their splendid services during the war, regard should be paid to the grievances of British trawlers under the bye-laws of the Fisheries Board. The other day an Aberdeen fisherman, fined £30 for certain absent-minded proceedings in the Moray Firth, stated that German fishermen, when prepared to resume business, "would have the right to trawl in the Moray Firth, where there was an enormous amount of fish, whereas our own vessels were kept out of it." Apparently this statement passed unchallenged. What is the meaning of it?

There and Back Again.

A merchant seaman and a wireless operator, hearing there were vacancies on the clerical staff of the Ministry of Pensions, promptly applied at the Windsor Hotel. Thence they were sent to the Howard Hotel, to be told they had to pass a Selection Committee, but must first obtain an introduction card from the Labour Exchange. And there the joke, a very bad one, commenced. The Exchange gives no card; they re-visit the hotels, are sent back to the Exchange—and back to the hotels. If this is a trick, it is an unworthy one, for it would be far kinder to tell the men no, at once, if that is to be the answer.

Hell Fire Thomas.

Writing in the *Cardigan Advertiser*, a Mr. G. B. Thomas desires to see Christianity formally established by Act of Parliament, although without the mild and forgiving sentiments of the Sermon on the Mount. "One of the greatest causes of evil," says Mr. Thomas, "is the belief that Christianity forgives every sin and crime for the asking," and he adds, evidently knowing all about it, "God never forgives a person who sins wilfully and knowingly." At the same time, it is difficult to see how this scheme of eternal punishment can be embodied in an Act of Parliament. The prospect of the Bishops sitting as a judicial tribunal and serving out "stretches" of "hell-fire" is not one that intrigues our fancy.

Hospital Slaveys.

Is it true that the housemaids employed at St. Mary's Hospital are on duty from 5.30 in the morning until 10 at night, excepting on alternate nights, when they cease work at 5 p.m., too fatigued to trouble about going out for a breath of fresh air? Sixteen hours a day for girl workers!

Threepence a Week Rise.

A P.O. worker has been compulsorily retired since 1916. He gets, roughly, a guinea a week, half as pension, half as compensation for injury. Hearing that old-age pensions were to be increased, he put in his claim. In due course "my Lords" of the Treasury graciously told him his pension would be augmented by 6d. weekly, but, in consequence of that stupendous increase, his compensation money must be reduced by 3d. weekly. Wonderful Treasury.

BRITISH BOXING CHAMPION.

Quest for a Boy to Bring Home the Laurels.

A few years ago, when Jack Johnson, the negro, was champion of the world, we took an active part in endeavouring to find a "white hope" to wrest the title from him—and a British one at that. We have always felt that, as the home of boxing, Britain should never be ousted from the first place in the "noble art." We are, of course, delighted that Johnson's role is over and that the respective champions of Europe and the World to-day are both white men. But one is French and the other American—and although, of course, we have nothing but the most friendly sentiments towards these two countries, we should prefer to see one of our own boys secure the laurels. Before the war, we thought we had found such a prospective champion in Young Ahearn—"John Bull's Boy" as he was called—but apparently he is now off the scene. In these circumstances, and after the recent defeat of Beckett, we have decided to send the famous journalist, Mr. A. G. Hales—a leading authority upon the fistic art and no mean exponent of it himself—on a commission throughout the country in search of a potential British World's Champion; and we are endeavouring to enlist the co-operation of Mr. Eugene Corri, the famous referee, in the quest. Given a lad of sufficient promise, he shall lack nothing in the way of maintenance, training, and instruction. We will keep our readers duly informed of the progress of the quest.

Egyptology.

A member of the British Club at Alexandria sends us a cutting from *La Bourse Egyptienne.* Said cutting intimates that Field Marshal Allenby, with his suite and the members of the Milner Commission, have returned to Cairo after having been on a hunting expedition at El Akiad. "Lord Milner did not accompany the party, keeping his room in consequence of a severe cold." Our correspondent comments, "The Commission has evidently got to work." Peradventure, they have been having a happy New Year.

The Women's Vote.

Some of the old Suffragettes are touting for subscriptions to a big money gift to Mrs. Pankhurst and Miss Christabel on the plea that those ladies won Votes for Women. We are rather of opinion that the women won their own charter by their war-work, and not by the window-smashing campaign.

Driven Out of His Shop.

There is a small second-hand shop in Newcastle where the dealer is selling up his stock, no reasonable offer refused. His rent has been £35 a year. He is now kindly informed that he can be granted a renewal of his lease at £125. This looks like an atrocity which the Profiteering Committee ought to have power to stop.

Railway Smashers.

What sometimes happens on the railway is dolefully illustrated by the experiences of a man and wife. They sent from Beverley, Yorks, to Romford, Essex, about £20 worth of new furniture. It travelled on three lines, and, on arrival, much was missing and more broken. For the smashed-up remainder, 10s. was the highest bid. A modest claim of £3 for damages has met with no response from the railways. The moral would seem to be, sell before you shift.

A Sham Shortage.

Enfield is getting ready for the snow. But when it comes the District Council will not tackle it. Every householder must do that, clearing all the pavement or path in front of his premises and also taking care not to let it accumulate in the road. Such a bye-law might be necessary at times, but the Enfield Council's excuse for making it—"owing to the shortage of labour in the district"—will not hold water. The local Labour Exchanges prove, alas! the direct contrary.

More Sweating.

The other day we referred to a bad case of sweating in connection with the manufacture of ladies' underclothing; this time it is cotton bags "manufactured and printed for every purpose" by a firm at Bermondsey. Our information is that the smaller bags are stitched by women working in their own homes, the payment working out at 5s. per 1,000. For this pittance, it appears, the bags have to be stitched, with strings attached, counted and tied up in bundles. One poor woman tells us she was hoping there would be an increase of pay "for a Christmas-box," but she had been disappointed. It is incredible that this sort of thing should be tolerated in these progressive days.

Making an Example.

The judicial authorities "Down Under" are determined to stamp out those horrible offences against children which too often figure in our own Courts, sometimes to be disposed of with disgraceful leniency. Convicted at Wellington, New Zealand, of a criminal assault upon a girl of tender years, a man named Delaney was recently sentenced by Mr. Justice Stringer to 15 years' penal servitude and 10 lashes with the cat! Without a doubt, misguided humanitarians will set up a chorus of protest against this terrible sentence; but after reading the account of the poor child's sufferings at the hands of her vile assailant, we are not for a moment prepared to say that it was too severe.

CANDID COMMUNICATIONS.

This page is devoted to Open Letters to Celebrities, Notorieties, and, occasionally, Nonentities.

To the Right Hon. Sir Auckland Geddes, M.P., President of the Board of Trade.

DEAR SIR AUCKLAND,—I am not, as yo know, a blind admirer, but I must admit that in your recent statement to an American news agency you struck the right note of cheery optimism for the New Year. In my view, given good luck and a reasonable measure of sanity on the part of Labour, there is solid justification for your belief that 1920 "will be a year of great prosperity," and I am pleased to see you setting an example to the "grousers," who are still too often heard. In the past you have so often opened your mouth only to "put your foot into it," that I am glad for once in a way to see you in better form. Keep it up.

JOHN BULL.

To Guy Calthrop, Esq., General Manager, London and North-Western Railway.

DEAR SIR,—Information reaches me from Leigh, in Lancashire, that your Company, which has a monopoly in those parts, is badly letting down the local community in regard to the delivery of foodstuffs. I do not say that, generally speaking, your line is a greater sinner than any other. But a special instance to which my attention is drawn is that on 10th Dec. last a consignment of eggs was delivered to the Company in Tuam, Ireland; it arrived in Leigh at 3 p.m. on 31st December. Now, if anybody boiled for your breakfast an egg which had been 21 days in transit, with three days added for the holidays, before it reached you, I could see you throwing up the windows to let in air, and calling in the maid to take out the offending thing and drown it. The people of Leigh, I imagine, are not less fastidious in their disregard for rotten eggs, or rotten food of any kind—so in future will you please expedite deliveries to the utmost of your power?

JOHN BULL.

To Ernest Wheeler, Esq., The Pavilion Theatre, Weymouth.

GOOD-HEARTED SIR,—All the Workhouse inmates went to see your pantomime, "Jack and Jill." It was your treat. And you did not end at that. You provided sumptuous tea in specially decorated rooms, presented each with a big packet of goodies on leaving, and sent cars for aged and infirm folk who could not toddle briskly. As they tell me you do this kind of thing every year, Weymouth should be proud of you. I only wish there were more like you. JOHN BULL.

To Mrs. Lambert, Upper Edmonton, London.

DEAR GRANNY,—I have heard of several people older than you, but at 106 you're a marvel, 'pon my word you are, and I hope you'll have a happy New Year and many of 'em. You needn't be at all pessimistic. "All the days of Methuselah were nine hundred sixty and nine years, and he died," but was obviously in no hurry about it. "And Noah lived after the Flood three hundred and fifty years. All the days of Noah were nine hundred and fifty years, and he died;" and possibly he would have been living yet if he had kept off the water. As I have often said, there's nowt t' beeat t'young uns bar t'owd uns. You've travelled a long, long journey and seen a great many pictures, and had your weather a bit mixed, I expect, Granny; but I'm sure you think the journey has been worth going, and the pictures worth seeing, and the weather not much to grumble at, taking it all in all. Such as my blessing is, it is with you. JOHN BULL.

To William John Woodgate, 20, George Street, Devonport.

MY DEAR LAD,—I am very glad indeed to see that the Chairman of the Devonport Magistrates has presented you with the Certificate of the Royal Humane Society for your plucky rescue of a Mr. Russell. You are only a lad of 16; Mr. Russell is a grown man; and the circumstances in which you rescued him in his peril while bathing—your plunging in to him without hesitation while a strong tide was running—prove at once your courage and your humanity. Allow me, my boy, to wish you success in all good things. "Be not weary in well doing." JOHN BULL.

To Colonel Campbell, Ditchling, Sussex.

DEAR COLONEL,—You have been replying to the advertisements of demobilised officers and other ex-Service men in want of employment, offering them a sort of labourer's job on your farm on the Isle of Sark, to work under a woman bailiff, at a wage of from 18s. to 23s. per week. Why do you trouble yourself to insult with such a proposition the men who have fought and bled for their country? One ex-officer to whom you wrote tells me he has "had a sound education and a good knowledge of two languages—and if I am only worth 18s. a week, the Colonel can have me for a doormat." But perhaps the advt. is only "sark." JOHN BULL.

To Mrs. Lucy Parsley, Campbell Street, Edgware Road, W.

MADAM,—Without paying attention to anything beyond your own admissions, I must ask you please to try kinder methods with your ten-year-old daughter. It may be quite untrue that, because you thrashed her, the child ran naked into the street; but it is evident that considerable severity had been used, and you admitted that in a fit of temper you had beaten her with a strap for certain faults of behaviour. In these circumstances, you were cautioned by the Magistrate to be more careful for the future and keep control of your temper. Unless you pay heed to the advice, there may be further trouble in store for you. JOHN BULL.

To Ernest Greenwood, Regent Street, Halifax.

SIR,—Although it cost you only 20s. at the Blackpool Police Court, it is evident that you were really guilty of a serious assault upon your mother-in-law, while you admit that on one occasion at least you presumed to chastise your wife. I hope it is not true that you assailed the poor woman in her bath—where she would obviously be taken at a severe disadvantage; but in any case you are evidently much too strong in the arm, and I must ask you please to mend your manners. If you want to develop your biceps there are lots of nice ways of doing it, without making yourself a holy terror in the home. Please let me hear no more of it.

JOHN BULL.

To the Mayor of Sutton Coldfield.

DEAR MR. MAYOR,—Let me join with the people of Sutton in urging you, as head of the Corporation, not to lay vandalistic hands on your local park, a lovely pleasaunce free to the public for 300 years. It is suggested that it should be turned into a kind of Fun Fair, with motor-roads, swings and things, concert halls, golf courses, club houses, show grounds, and so on, with charges for admission to the very people whose property it really is. There are not too many beauty spots in the Midlands, and you have one of the best. To cut up and disfigure the fair face of Nature for the sake of a possible profit would be a retrograde step. Leave the park in its native loveliness. JOHN BULL.

To Sir Arthur Spurgeon, Chairman, Croydon County Bench.

DEAR SIR,—It is pleasing to know of one Justice of the Peace who has a true appreciation of the vileness of cruelty to defenceless animals. Lately you had before you a callous brute named Thomas Preen, a timber merchant of Carshalton, summoned for cruelty to four horses, which he starved and neglected for a month, with the result that three of them have had to be destroyed. Instead of letting off this insult to humanity with a fine, which is too often the procedure of Justices, you sentenced him to six weeks' hard labour. May all who come before you for a similar offence receive a similar sentence. The only improvement I can suggest is that you make it six *months*.

JOHN BULL.

To Mr. John Bloxham, J.P., Hampton-on-Thames.

DEAR JUSTICE,—As a Magistrate, you seem to be going strong, and I only hope the pace may not prove too much for you. The other morning, on your way to work, you were asked to step into the police court and deal with an impatient prisoner, who I suppose had a train to catch—a little diversion that did not prevent you from arriving on the stroke of time at Kempton Park, where, by the sweat of your manly brow, you earn your daily bread. On the way back in the evening, you stopped to hear a charge of illegal gaming, fined the culprits a pound, and so home all smiling to supper. I am told that from start to finish you did not turn a hair or waggle an eyebrow. Accept my compliments.

JOHN BULL.

To J. C. Tyler, Esq., J.P., Pontypool, Wales.

DEAR SIR,—Judging by your speech at the Golf Club, you will be delighted to hear you agree with me in believing that if you go to church on a Sunday morning you are entitled to play a game of golf in the afternoon. Golf is not one of the languages I speak myself, picturesque though I am informed it is; but, apart from sanctimonialism and pharisaism, I think that every good thing is as good for one day as for another. Therefore I see no objection to your indulgence in any healthful recreation on Sunday. You can always do your praying at home before you commence; it will be at least as effective as any praying the parson can do for you. Wherefore go down to the links and enjoy your Sunday golf as you care to arrange it. Your soul will be none the worse, and your body will be all the better.

JOHN BULL.

To Councillor O'Connor, Drogheda, Ireland.

DEAR SIR,—Like the rest of Ireland, I have no doubt Drogheda has had a beautiful war, and that you have enjoyed it as much as anybody. So much I gather from your speech to the Council against the selection of an Anti-Profiteering Committee. In effect, you tell the Council that there are no profiteers in Drogheda. All, all are righteous. Not only do you marvel at the Christian restraint of the shopmen, but the stranger in the midst marvels also; they "don't even give themselves a reasonable chance of making a living." No longer need they be bashful in their aspirations. No longer need they falter in their opportunities. Thanks to the O'Connor, Drogheda's proposed Anti-Profiteering Tribunal is still-born, and the shopmen will be able to sit at the receipt of custom, fearless of the workhouse or the dole. You can rely upon their vote and interest—and Heaven bless your happy home! JOHN BULL

"KEPT OUT OF THE WAR."

STRANGE BOAST BY A CO-OP. MANAGER.

The *Wheatsheaf*, a magazine published by the Co-operative Societies, contains some peculiar expressions in its account of a "welcome home," at Grimsby, to heroes returned from the war. It was arranged by the "stay-at-homes," and all went well until a toast was responded to by a Mr. Gunton, who, says the journal, "was slightly in the reminiscent mood, and spoke of the 'time' he had in trying 'to keep them out.' One or two in the company 'got the wind up' during the so-called Derby Volunteer scheme, but they had weathered the storm, and, like a great many more, they could answer 'What did you do in the Great War?' by the truthful acknowledgment that they did their best to keep out, and were successful." Taking those admissions at their face value, and recognising that Mr. Gunton is in a position of authority among the Co-ops. at Grimsby, it seems that no credit whatever is due to him for the fact that 92 of the local employees joined the Colours. A man who can get on his hind-legs at a welcome home to Service men and pride himself on doing his best to "keep them out of the war" must be a strangely-constituted person.

DAMAGED MOSS

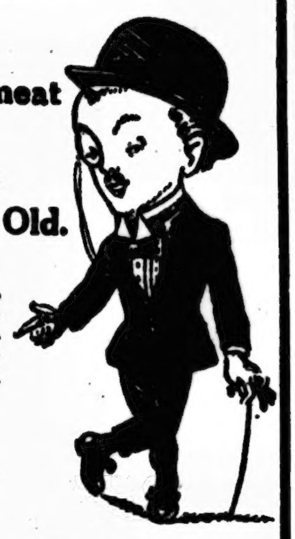
A HITCHIN MAN WHO SHOULD BE SCRATCHED.

When the war broke out in August, 1914, the housewives of Hitchin were some of the first to feel the effects of it. Within a few days of the opening of hostilities, Messrs. W. B. Moss & Sons, Ltd., grocers, of that Hertfordshire town, advanced the price of certain household commodities, and at the same time so aroused the ire of their customers that the result was the smashing of the shop windows and an attack upon Mr. Moss's private residence what time he slept. Years pass, and the Urban Council, in their wisdom, appoint a Profiteering Committee. Names are submitted to them for selection—amongst them being that of Mr. Hubert Moss, son of the aforementioned Moss. and managing partner of Messrs. W.B. Moss & Sons. Mr. Hubert Moss is elected, and it is to be hoped that by the stern and unrelenting exercise of his duty, he will put the wind up England's worst enemies—the profiteers. For ourselves, we would prefer to scratch his name off the Committee.

HUMANE METHODS.

CRUELTY PREVENTION SOCIETY'S ACTIVE MOVE.

Apropos of our recent paragraph "Painful Slaughter," a member of the Ulster Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals pertinently observes that "all slaughtering is painful in the hands of unskilled men." That this statement is broadly true no one acquainted with the subject will deny, and we have every sympathy with our Ulster friends upon the active steps they are taking to ensure the adoption of humane slaughtering methods in the City of Belfast. With an eye to the coming City Council elections, the U.S.P.C.A. has submitted a series of searching questions to aspirants for municipal honours, inviting their co-operation in the effort to introduce "humane slaughtering reform" at the City Abattoir and at private slaughter-houses throughout the Belfast area. They specially insist that the Council should adopt the Ministry of Health "model by-law" requiring all animals to be mechanically stunned before they are actually slaughtered; that no animal shall be killed, or its carcase dressed, in the presence of another; and that the stunning and slaughtering of animals shall in all cases be in the hands of qualified men. That these humane demands should constitute a live issue at a municipal election will be a source of keen satisfaction to all lovers of the dumb creation.



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The Finest Sweetmeat ever sold
To bring Delight to Young and Old.

If you are looking for a Health-Giving Sugar Confection—here it is!

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No party is complete without the attractive tin which contains those Super-Sweets.

Sold by weight in 4 lb. Decorated Tins, also in ¼, ½ and 1 lb. Tins.

See that the word 'Super-Kreem' is printed on the paper in which Toffee is wrapped.

SHARP'S, MAIDSTONE.

£7,800,000,000!

Uncle Cheeriboy's Chats. No. 10.

"Phew! it's a gigantic total," remarks Uncle Cheeriboy, "but we must face it like men and each play the utmost part in putting the country on her feet again, but this cannot be done unless all are fit and well. And what better prescription can I offer you than Page Woodcock's Pills."

Cheeriboy speaks from a wide experience, for he practices what he preaches, and no one better than him knows what a huge sum total of good has been effected by Page Woodcock's Pills on behalf of humanity. Millions have proven for over 70 years that Page Woodcock's Pills relieve and cure signs and symptoms of Biliousness, Constipation, Anæmia, Palpitation, Flatulence, Acidity, Kidney Troubles, Liver Complaints and Digestive Diseases.

They make and keep you fit! 70 years' reputation.
Sold by all Chemists. 1/3 and 3/- per box.
Have cured millions. Why not you?

Page Woodcock's Pills

THE UNREWARDED INVENTOR.

QUEER STORY OF A GRIMSBY MAN'S GRIEVANCE.

Here is another queer invention story. It is told to us by Mr. James Greenwood, of Grimsby, a marine engineer. It will be recalled that in the early days of the war the Government invited the public to invent a device which would destroy any mines capable of obstructing the safe passage of ships under way. Mr. Greenwood studied the question, he tells us, and eventually submitted particulars to a Keighley patent agent, who advised him that as it was likely to prove of valuable assistance to the Crown it could not be protected, and the best course would be to forward a copy of the specification to the Admiralty. It was accordingly sent on 15th May, 1915. A fortnight later he received an acknowledgment stating that his suggestion had been carefully considered by their Lordships, and that "after further consideration another communication would be sent to him." Mr. Greenwood has been awaiting "another communication" from that day to this. In June, 1916, he was stationed at Granton Naval Base, serving as a motor mechanic. "Here," says he, "I happened to observe the so-called Paravane attached to a destroyer. Hardly believing my eyes, I recognised it as the device I had submitted to Whitehall. I at once set off to the Admiral, Sir James Startin, and asked him to inquire of the Admiralty if it was my invention that had been successful, and if they had any information to that effect for me. In reply to his inquiry Sir James was informed that the invention extended so far back that it was impossible for them to trace any specification." The climax of the story is that shortly after the termination of hostilities the photograph of Lieut. Burney appeared in a newspaper, the letterpress beneath stating that this officer had received the Order of St. Michael and St. George and a sum of £30,000 in acknowledgment of his invention of the Paravane. The Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty are certainly called upon for some explanation of the matter.

A WORD TO MODERATE DRINKERS.

WHAT STATE MANAGEMENT REALLY MEANS.

Folks interested in the Labour Party proposals for the State purchase of the Licensed Trade might do worse than study the facts of the Liquor Control Board's experiment at Carlisle, where, since the early part of the war, a working model of State Control has been in operation. As was to be expected, the Beer Controllers have used their opportunity to curtail the liberties of the public in every direction. Every licensed house in the City has been closed on Sundays, and the sale of spirits not only forbidden on Saturdays, as in other districts, but so closely regulated that only five selected establishments in the whole of Carlisle have been permitted to continue the bottle trade. Nor have the authorities been satisfied with these vexatious proceedings. All grocers' licences have been abolished—the shops of Messrs. Gilby, Ltd., were compelled to close—while the sale of spirits from the five privileged establishments has been strictly limited to one bottle a fortnight for each regular customer—only to be obtained on presentation of a ticket. As regards those engaged in the licensed trade, the arbitrary authority of the Control Board has known no bounds, the managers of licensed premises having been forbidden to smoke during business hours, to keep more than one dog, or to entertain friends on the premises even when they were closed to the general public. On the whole, a more tyrannous exhibition of State bureaucracy has seldom been witnessed. If the British working man really wants this sort of thing, he had better say so; if not, he should think twice before supporting the policy which some of their "leaders" have made their own.

THE M.P. AND THE HANGMAN.

A PLEA FOR A "LIVING" WAGE FOR THE PUBLIC EXECUTIONER.

APROPOS of a recent Candid Communication which we addressed to Mr. Augustine Hailwood, M.P., in regard to his plea for better payment for the official hangman, we have received the following interesting letter from the hon. gentleman :—

MY DEAR JOHN BULL,—I have read with pleasure your Open Letter to me in this week's issue of your paper, and am glad you approve of my ventilating in the House the scandal of the Executioner and his assistants being paid only at the same rate as before the war. The Home Secretary tries to make the pretence that the Executioner is not a servant of the Government, but that he is employed by the Sheriff of the County, and that in consequence the Home Office is not responsible. This is nothing but a polite fiction, to make it appear that the Government is too respectable to hang anyone. It is true that the Executioner is paid by the Sheriff, but I have a suspicion that the Home Office sees that he is reimbursed.

Again, directions are given from the Home Office before an execution takes place as to how the Executioner and his assistants shall travel to and from, and what times they shall arrive at, the jail. I fail to see how the Home Office directs if it does not pay, and indeed it pays the Assistant Executioner direct. It may be of interest to know how these strict directions have come about. Formerly there were no such directions, and hotel proprietors in the neighbourhood of a jail where one of these events was going to take place used to invite, and probably pay, the Executioner to stay at their house—which, of course, meant extra custom, as the landlord made it known among his patrons. I am glad to say that this has been done away with for some years, and before the present Executioner took office. There was also an annual retaining fee of £50, which was abolished at the same time. You will readily see that the remuneration is not what it was. In addition to this, the Executioner was allowed to bring away with him the ropes he had used, which he was able to sell at a good price to some showman if they had been used to hang a notorious criminal. This also was put a stop, to. and another little perquisite goes with it. The Executioner has to arrive at the jail before four o'clock the day prior to the morning of the execution. He is not allowed out of the jail again until some time after the work is completed. He is paid £5 for the work and £5 for good conduct before and for a fortnight afterwards—which of course means that he has kept away from public-houses and not made a showman of himself. These same directions and restrictions apply to his assistants, who have to be properly trained and who receive only the munificent sum of £1 1s. and another £1 1s. for so-called good conduct.

Picture to yourself that perhaps three days are taken up in going to the jail, doing the work and travelling back home again. These men have to get their living the rest of the year at small business, or perhaps as skilled artisans where they are allowed occasionally to have a few days off with loss of pay; you will readily see that they are out of pocket. They do not belong to any Trade Union. They do not threaten to go on strike, and I suppose because of this their services are paid for at the same rate as before the war, and as I have shown, they are much worse off than their predecessors in office some years ago. I know that you are always ready to look after the interests of any obscure citizen who has a legitimate grievance, and I feel you will readily co-operate with me in the next session of Parliament.

We will try to make the Home Secretary realise his duty to these necessary servants of the State. It took a Police Union and a Police Strike to bring about the present pay of the policemen, and then the Union had to be smashed in the interest of the State. Surely he does not wish the same course of events before these men are adequately remunerated; and I can speak for them, they do not wish it themselves, and make no such threat.

We shall certainly be happy to co-operate with our hon. friend in the way suggested. Justice demands fair treatment for all—even for the hangman, who—paradoxical as the phrase may sound—is certainly entitled to a "living" wage!

There are a good many honest citizens who to-day are in favour of the abolition of capital punishment, and we should not be surprised to see this "reform" carried out. But, without arguing the merits of "abolition," there is no one who will dispute that the hangman, as Mr. Hailwood argues, is worthy of his hire. They certainly treated the hangman—who, if he is not harmless, is certainly necessary—much better in the old days when money went farther than it does in these profiteering times. And then, too, the public executioner used to be a person of some importance, To-day he is just a private individual emerging from his retirement at stated intervals to perform the "happy despatch." And then, too, in olden days the hangman hanged persons worth hanging. To-day the name of Jack Ketch, who was public executioner in the 17th century, is still, if not a "household word," certainly a familiar one. He it was who enjoyed the distinction of executing William Lord Russell and the Duke of Monmouth. Then there was Calcraft, who was employed as executioner until the seventies of the last century. How was he treated? Why, the Corporation of London gave him a retaining fee of a guinea a week—then the 21 shillings bought a guinea's worth of goods—and an extra guinea for each execution.

Under the callous system of laws that obtained less than a hundred years ago (men were drawn to the scaffold for coining and were hanged for forgery as late as the twenties of the 19th century—a boy of fourteen was executed for murder in 1830)—the executioner was a busy man. Happily to-day the calls upon his skill and experience are comparatively few.

But we join in the plea for better wages for the men who carry out so onerous and so unpopular a public duty.

CRIME AND PUNISHMENT.

AMAZING SENTENCES OF SCOTS LAW LORDS.

Upon a recent occasion two eminent Scottish Judges, Lord Guthrie and Lord Cullen, sat to deal with criminal cases in the High Court of Justiciary at Glasgow. With the leniency shown towards Marion M'Neil, a girl-mother accused of "murdering" her unwanted baby, aged 12 days, we have no particular quarrel; perhaps the sentence of nine months' imprisonment was sufficient. But it was half as severe again as the penalty awarded to Daniel M'Neil—the similarity of name was apparently a mere coincidence—for "stabbing and murdering" his brother. This was Lord Cullen's part of the performance, but Lord Guthrie was in an equally genial frame of mind—a gentleman named Hugh Jones, of Partick, Glasgow, charged with "assaulting his wife and cutting her throat with a razor," being dismissed with four months' imprisonment. However, towards the end it seems to have occurred to their Lordships that, without more "pep," some fussy person might be saying they had not earned their keep—so when Robert M'Queen, of Greenock, was found guilty of attempting to defraud an Ulster firm of £16 10s., he was sentenced to three years' penal servitude which, according to Lord Cullen, he had "well earned." On his record perhaps he had, but with all due respect to Lords Cullen and Guthrie, we should not select this day's work as a sample of the skill of the Scottish judiciary in "making the punishment fit the crime."

"LUCRATIVE" EMPLOYMENT.

GLITTERING WAGES FOR NOSEY PARKERS.

Replying to an advertisement offering "respectable lucrative employment," a Southend reader received an interesting communication from the Trade Protection Agency—less modestly known as the Universal Chamber of Commerce—of 56, Ludgate Hill, E.C., the employment offered being that of a tame commercial ferret in certain selected localities. "You need have no hesitation in aiding us, as we do not, under any circumstances, disclose your name and identity," wrote the advertisers. "Such information as is not in your possession should be readily obtained during your daily routine from landlords, traders, employers, and so on." Not exactly pleasant work, perhaps, but the times are hard and the recipient of this engaging proposal read on to the end, hoping to strike the "lucrative" features of the scheme. Alas for his fond hopes, the financial disclosure opened on an ominous note of apology—"We regret the small fee enclosed is the maximum the inquiries will bear." The small fee enclosed? Six penny stamps! Pity the poor inquiry agent!—sixpence, and his own expenses to pay, for delicate and confidential investigations that might involve long hours of labour, with the risk of a "thick ear" into the bargain. It is true that, in consideration of the small fee payable, the Agency were "willing to reciprocate"! The Universal Chamber of Commerce should change its title. The "Incorporated Association of Paul Prys" might do.

THE STATE AS BILKER.

NO COMPENSATION FOR "DORA'S" DEPREDATIONS.

Among the latest complaints of the wrongs inflicted on British citizens by "Dora" is one from a Norwich builder, who had two villa residences taken over by the Military at the end of 1914. For a period of five months, until the end of the following May, they were occupied by a succession of troops, and left, as he assures us, "in a badly damaged and dirty condition"—but although certain negotiations took place, no agreement for compensation was reached until December 9th, 1915, when the premises again passed into Military occupation. Before March, 1916, when the houses were finally vacated, a considerable amount of further damage was discovered—the net result being that until they were thoroughly repaired in the autumn of 1917 they were quite untenantable, the landlord consequently suffering a heavy loss of rent. It will, perhaps, scarcely be credited that in these circumstances the War Office authorities have declined to grant a penny of compensation for this heavy loss, consenting merely to pay the bare rent of the premises for the two terms of military occupation and a sum of £50 for "dilapidations"—a small fraction of the actual cost of repair. Meanwhile, the Defence of the Realm Losses Commission declines to remedy this palpable injustice, the case, as they contend, being "outside their jurisdiction." It is scandalous that honest citizens should be thus shamefully bilked by the State.

VAST OPPORTUNITIES IN 1920.

Thousands Making Prosperity Certain.

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THE New Year has opened splendidly. In every branch of industry and commerce there is evidence of a determination to make 1920 a year of unexampled prosperity and progress.

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From the very first lesson you will find your thinking power revitalised. You will appreciate the studiously careful and sincere comments of the trained psychologists who direct your efforts in brain-development.

You will be enthused and encouraged, you will become conscious of mental qualities which lie dormant and unsuspected in your mental make-up. And, long before you complete the Course you will know that you have as bright a brain as any man—*and you will be advancing as rapidly as you could wish.*

The New Pelman Course which is now being given is the revised and enlarged Course upon which the specialists of the Advisory Board of the Pelman Institute have been engaged for many months past.

Brilliantly successful as the previous Course was, it may be confidently predicted that the new Course will be even more successful. The data have been gathered in the course of dealing with over half a million men and women of all classes. In this respect the practical experience and the material resources of the Institute are so entirely unique that its co-operation and assistance have been frequently sought by the highest educational authorities.

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The New Pelman Course includes a complete series of Physical Health Exercises which have been specially contributed by Mr. Eustace Miles, the foremost English authority on Physical Culture. No extra charge is made for this valuable feature, which has already proved of the greatest benefit to students.

It costs you only the price of a postage stamp to satisfy yourself as to whether there "is anything in Pelmanism," and you will be agreeably surprised at the modesty of the fee for enrolment. Write the postcard or fill in the coupon and post *now* or call to-day—your only regret will be that you did not do so sooner.

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Sir,—Please send me, gratis and post free, a copy of the book, "Mind and Memory," a copy of *Truth's* latest Report, and particulars of the Offer entitling me to take the New Pelman Course on specially reduced terms.

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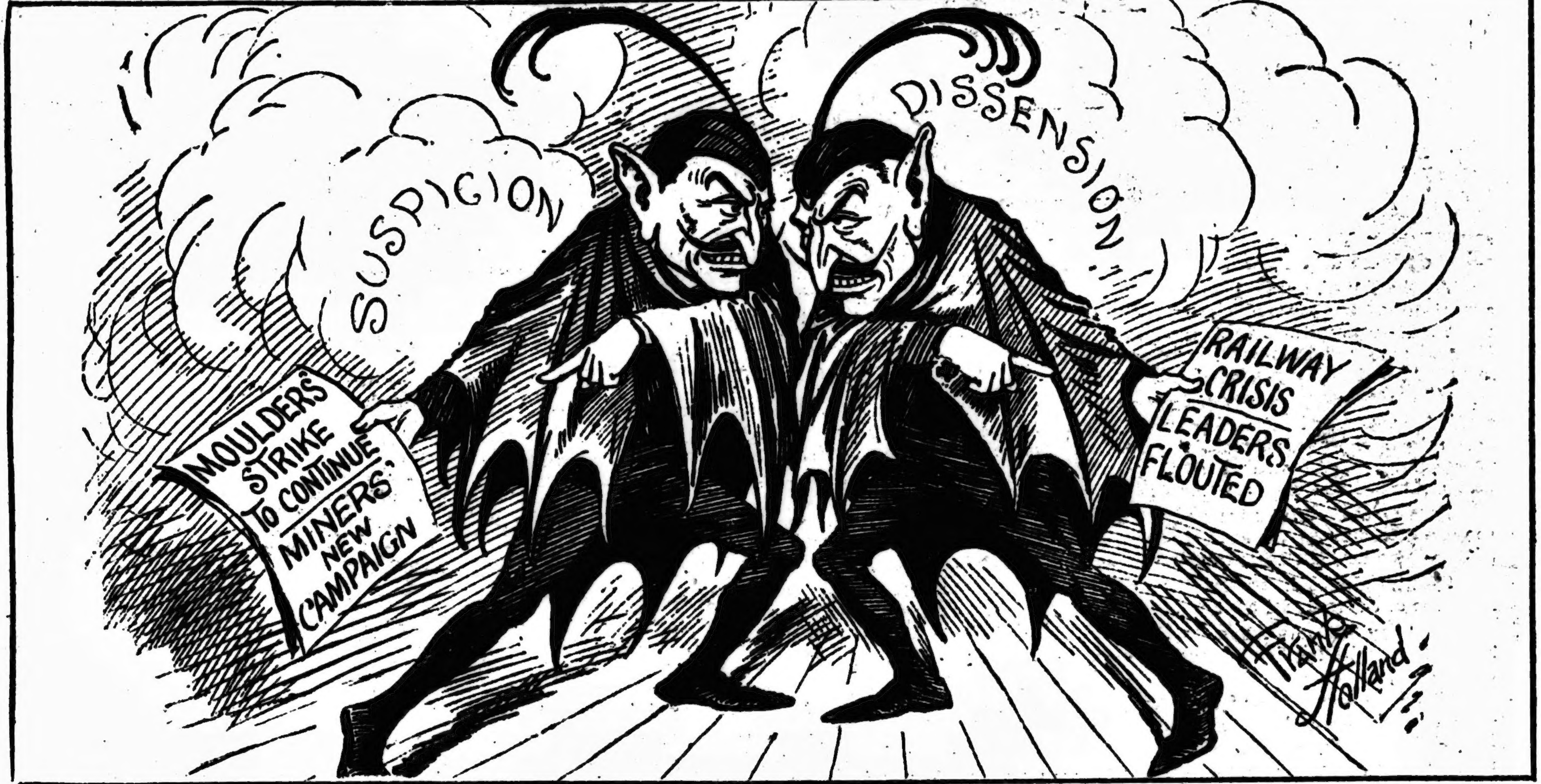

FIRST DEMON:—"I am the demon Suspicion,
To cause trouble and strife is my mission;
And for trust and good sense
I've a hatred intense,
For they battle against my ambition!"

SECOND DEMON:—"I am the demon Dissension;
I'm the sower of seeds of contention—
All the words of the wise
I can twist into lies,
And make evil of all good intention!"

LOPSIDED LAW.

RICH MAY BREAK MEAT ORDERS, BUT POOR MUSTN'T.

At the fat cattle shows owners and butchers alike were allowed to break regulations galore in respect of the prices paid for the carcases. According to the Director of Meat Supplies this, in the case of Smithfield Show, was due to "special arrangements." Under these special arrangements pigs were sold for slaughter and killed weighing less than 100 lbs., though the Pig Order of 1st December, 1919, makes it illegal to do so. Pigs, too, were publicly sold to butchers at prices varying from 15s. 6d. to 51s. per stone of 8 lbs., these prices going to the big societies and well-to-do, even ducal, exhibitors; yet the doors of the Show had scarcely been closed—within a week, at any rate—when John Beach, a greengrocer, of Addlestone, and George Ashby, a pork butcher, of Chertsey, were hauled up before the Cadis of the latter place "for selling and purchasing two pigs at a price exceeding the maximum under the Order."

Ashby cogently pleaded that the prices at Guildford Market under Government control were higher than the prices he paid to Beach. "It was cheaper to buy from local persons, and the public derive the benefit. There was no question of profiteering." The defence did not avail, and the Government officials had whatever satisfaction they could find in inflicting on comparatively poor men the burden of heavy fines. They had charged 10d. per 8-lb. stone in excess of the Order; the big societies and aristocratic exhibitors at Smithfield charged practically what they pleased—according to published prices, in some instances even as much as 40s. in excess. It is certainly a case of "One law for the rich and another for the poor."

HUN TRICKERY.

EX-TEUTONS WHO NOW POSE AS "OUR FRIENDS."

We have never grudged the Huns the compliment of stating that in all forms of trickery they were easy winners. Just at present, the fact that some of the former territories of the German and Austro-Hungarian Empire have achieved their independence is being used by German merchants to surmount the difficulties of direct intercourse with Great Britain. A case in point is furnished by the proceedings of the Wolfram Laboratorium, under the direction of Dr. Paul Schwarzkopf, of 11, Stoglitzerstrasse, Berlin, who lately addressed the following proposal to an English firm:—

> We respectfully inform you that to square up a debt which we owe Franz Mandl, of Zitna 44, Prague, Bohemia, since August 1st, 1914, we have authorised him to collect debts from various firms owed to us. We request you, therefore, to hand this sum to them only and not to us, and to accept our authority for this transaction with the above-named Franz Mandl, who is a citizen of the Czecho-Slovakian Republic, and hence a friend of your country, so there will be no difficulty in the settlement of the account.

This request was reinforced by a letter from Mandl, asking for payment into a London Bank as agents for the Ceska Banka Union, Prague.

The recipients of this engaging proposal contend that the alleged debt by them to the Wolfram Laboratorium, Berlin, is entirely a myth, their impression being that the German firm are simply going through their books and "trying it on" with old customers, with a view to "raising the wind" and extracting money from this country. If this be the correct interpretation, the scheme is not without ingenuity—although as a trap for hard-headed British merchants it is unlikely to succeed.

WEAK-KNEED CONSULS.

GRAVE OUTRAGE UPON FOUR INNOCENT BRITISH SEAMEN.

The experience of four British seamen, arrested at Boulogne by the French military police, calls for searching inquiry at the hands of the Foreign Office. Arriving at the French port in charge of a barge, the men were suspected of the theft of a couple of bedsheets, which, as was afterwards proved, had been accidentally left aboard at the last clearance of cargo. This mistake might not have been so serious if the accused had been promptly brought for trial, instead of which they were flung into prison at Boulogne—after being marched handcuffed through the streets—and detained for nearly three weeks without formal examination. To make matters still worse, the prison conditions were abominable, the poor fellows being denied a change of clothing, and tortured by the vermin with which the place was alive.

It was not until the third day of their imprisonment that they were allowed to address a letter to the British Vice-Consul at Boulogne, explaining their predicament and inviting his assistance. An evasive reply was received, and it may be shortly stated that from first to last the victims of this flagrant outrage received no practical help whatever from the Consular authorities on the spot. Finally, 20 days after their arrest, these four British seamen were brought before a Civil Court, when it was found that there was not a shadow of evidence against them, the presence of Army property aboard the barge being quite innocently accounted for. It remains to be added that the four men bear excellent characters, three of them having served in the Army during the war, without a stain on their records. This sort of treatment is not good enough for British sailors in a foreign port.

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J. B. 1.

How I Make Big Money Out of Unmanageable Horses.

By J. A. BUTLER.

ABOUT two years ago, when I was in America, I witnessed up in New York State an exhibition of horse-training that opened my eyes. A man by the name of Mackley took a devil of a mean, vicious mare that hadn't been harnessed for seven months, and in a few days had her gentle enough for a schoolgirl to drive. Mackley had taken the mare off the owner's hands for £10, and just ten days after sold her for £35. A clear profit of £25 in ten days!

That started me investigating. I learned that Mackley had simply used the methods introduced by the famous horse-trainer, Jesse Beery. Beery, I learned, used to go about the country giving wonderful exhibitions in colt-breaking and horse-training; but realising that he could accomplish more by teaching his methods by post, had given up his exhibition work to spread his horse-training secrets by postal instruction. Mackley had studied Beery's Course in his spare time and in a few months was able to accomplish magical results with unbroken colts and horses with bad habits.

OTHER SUCCESSES.

Mackley's work showed me a way to make some easy money and I determined to take Prof. Beery's Course in horse-training—but before doing so I made further inquiries. Here are what a few of Beery's students said. I'll let them tell of their success in their own words.

Mr. S. L. Arrant writes: Just to test Beery's methods, I bought the worst balky, kicking, fighting horse I could find. Paid £13 for him. After handling him only a few hours according to Beery's system I sold him for £27.

Mr. Dell Nicholson, Portland, writes: I have trained a four year old mare that was given up by everybody. Bought her for £7, and now have her so gentle, my little boy handles her. Wouldn't take £40 for her.

Dean L. Smith, Findley, writes: By following Beery's instructions have changed a worthless, dangerous balker into a horse worth £45.

Everett McBlock, writes: Have just broken a pony to drive and taught it some tricks. Owner bought it for £8 10s. Paid me £8 to train it. He just sold it to a show company for £30.

HOW I WORK.

The big source of my income is in buying up unmanageable colts and horses at bargain prices, and after training the animals, selling them at a good profit. However, I also pick up good money handling colts and training horses for others on a fee basis. For instance, a farmer had a beautiful driving bay that had the bad habit of shying. A piece of paper blowing across the road would set the horse crazy. The owner thought a great deal of the animal, but couldn't take chances on the shying habit. A friend of his for whom I had done some work put this man in touch with me and in a few hours I had the horse completely cured of the habit—for which job I received £10.

CURING BAD HABITS.

You can see from this that my work consists not only in breaking colts and "gentling" vicious horses, but in curing the various bad habits a horse can have—such as shying, balking, fear of motor-cars, etc., pulling at hitching strap, pawing in the stall, etc., etc.—Beery's methods of colt breaking are particularly amazing. Under the old way of handling raw colts one usually had to half kill the horse as well as himself to accomplish anything—and then the colt was usually spoiled or hurt in some way or other. But when you apply Beery's principles, there is no hard, long work or injury to the colt.

No one should have a biting, kicking, or balky horse when it is so easy to cure these vicious habits. No one should attempt to break in a colt the old-fashioned way when Beery's methods make the task so easy. To every horse-owner, to every lover of horseflesh, my advice is to get acquainted with the Beery principles. You can not only make money for yourself, but you can do a world of good, particularly at this day when war-demands have placed a premium on horses.

WONDERFUL BOOK FREE.

I have been requested to state that Prof. Jesse Beery will send his remarkable booklet, "How to Break and Train Horses," free to those interested. It is a booklet well worth having as it reveals some startling information on horse-training. I have heard men who considered themselves expert horsemen say that the booklet was a revelation to them. There is no use in my going into details on the booklet when you can get it free for the asking.

Just drop a line to Prof. Jesse Beery, Dept. 147, Pleasant Hill, Ohio, U.S.A., and the booklet will be sent free by return of post. A postcard (1d. stamp) will do as well as a letter.

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THE PEOPLE'S PULPIT.

The readers of "JOHN BULL" discuss matters of Public Interest.

In giving publicity on this page to the views of correspondents, preference will be accorded to brief letters bearing name and address for publication.

All envelopes and letters must be marked "P.P." in left-hand corner.

Letters for this page must relate to public, as distinguished from personal, topics.

For short acknowledgments of communications and replies to other letters—selected from our general mail—see "Letter Bag," pages 22 and 23.

British Trade-Mark.

Cannot something be done to let a Britisher know the origin of goods he is purchasing? I have seen British, American, and German goods for sale recently, neither of which had any mark to show where they were made. As they are all similar in appearance, the German goods are frequently bought, being cheaper than the others. Why not compel all articles imported to be stamped with the name of the country in which they were made?—W. W. Jeffcock, Muswell Avenue, Muswell Hill.

Invisible Direction Boards.

It would be a vast improvement and a great convenience to the general public if the local authorities would place the names of streets in prominent positions and, where a street lamp is not within effective distance, have the name-boards illuminated in some manner. Most people have experienced the difficulty of finding roads or streets after dark through the impossibility of locating the name-boards at the corners, or of reading them if located.—Edward G. Sainsbury, Halley Road, Forest Gate.

The Trinity of Life.

If the Church is to live and thrive, it must accept, proclaim and practically demonstrate its belief in the trinity of life—body, soul and spirit. The old Puritanical creed that pleasure and sin are inseparable must not be allowed to fetter the healthy instincts of youth. Church institutes, providing a safe environment for all the varying forms of youthful activity, must supplement and aid the service of prayer and praise. Happiness and religion will then go hand in hand.—Geo. Topping, Gardenia St., Carlisle.

The Independent M.P.

We are all familiar with the cry of the "rottenness of politics," and suspect most members of being in Parliament only to further their own "Party" interests. Unfortunately, this is generally correct, and will be so long as "Party politics" is the order of the day. If each candidate at an election was "Independent" his ability and character would be more fully scrutinised, and the best man would more often be elected. As matters stand, "Party colour" is the only guide to most people.—Fred Townley, Garden Village, Darwen.

"Life's Big Four."

It is but a few months since we were across the Channel fighting for Liberty, Justice and Honour, and now we are back in Blighty—still fighting, but this time for our own individual existence. A grateful country can supply us with food only at extortionate prices, clothes at fabulous figures, and not a house to live in! The "big four" should be within reach of the purse of the humblest, and the sooner Bread, Meat, Clothes and Houses are provided at possible prices the sooner shall we go "over the top" and capture the city of Commercial Supremacy.—Alec B. Pryce, Hermond Tce., Edinburgh.

History Repeats Itself.

At the peace conference of Tilsit, Napoleon had Prussia at his mercy, but allowed himself to be tricked. Contrary to the advice of his generals and of Talleyrand to disintegrate Prussia completely, he granted the right to maintain a standing army of 12,000 men. The Huns saw their chance. 12,000 men were called up, trained, returned to their homes, and their places filled by another 12,000. Result—when Napoleon retreated from Moscow, instead of 12,000, as expected, he found an army of 800,000 arrayed against him, which eventually proved to be a decisive factor in his overthrow.—W. B. Logan, Devon Street, Glasgow.

Psychological Problem.

Would it be uncharitable to suggest psychology as a reason for the shameful inadequacy of punishment repeatedly given for cruelty? There is a type of man, timid and "small" by nature, spending his life in a restricted social circle, who covets the office of Justice of the Peace, but to whom "the majesty of the Law" is merely a pet phrase. It seems feasible that such a one, confronted with the arrant brute, is subconsciously cowed; and therefore by misplaced leniency seeks to ingratiate himself with that which he is unable to regard without fear.—Stanley H. G. Millington, Rutland Gardens, N.

Five Guineas is paid to the writer of the most interesting letter. That amount has been sent to Mr. Wm. Queen.

Naturalisation Fees.

In view of the extent to which Naturalisation Certificates are being granted, if the fees were increased to £25 it would add considerably to the revenue and would also tend to lessen the number of applicants. Such Certificates should last for five years and then be renewable on payment of a further fee of £5, provided that the holder thereof had not been convicted of any criminal offence.—Fredk. S. Lindsey, Lawrence Rd., Tottenham.

Women Justices.

It has been stated that women magistrates will be occupied chiefly in Children's Courts. The point should be stretched to include Courts where offences *against* children are tried. Male Justices have generally shown themselves too lenient in such cases, even where lowest bestiality has been proved against the prisoners. Who better than mother of children could find the fitting punishment for the brutes who prey on little ones?—E. H. Davies, Upper Oldfield Park, Bath.

"Bookies" and Burglars.

Robberies—not infrequently accompanied with violence—are of daily occurrence, and the inevitable question arises, "What are the police doing?" The force is a body of which we are justly proud; yet when we read of the elaborate arrangements recently made to effect the capture of a street "bookie"—involving the use of a pantechnicon van and a squad of police—we are justified in asking if this is not a case of misdirected energy. The protection of life and property should receive primary consideration.—D. Chester, Cricklewood Lane, N.W.

New Plimsoll Mark Wanted.

There has been for many years a "Plimsoll Mark" at sea. This prevents the overloading of ships. A new Plimsoll Mark—*i.e.*, a load-line—is wanted on land for our horses. Brutal drivers are to be seen, all over the kingdom, beating willing horses struggling under too heavy loads. Let the local authorities have power to attend to this urgent matter. The load a horse has to pull could be endorsed upon a licence granted locally.—William Queen, Crookston Street, Glasgow.

Adopting Disabled Heroes.

During the war many wealthy people opened their homes and entertained our Soldiers and Sailors during their convalescence and whilst on leave. Why cannot another step higher be taken by the wealthy, by each adopting for life a man who is blinded or totally incapacitated by his War Service, and give him a good home and comfort to the end of his days? There are plenty of people able to do this.—Horace V. Smith, Grove Road, Leytonstone.

Revolver Permits.

In the majority of present-day robberies, suicides, etc., the revolver plays a deadly part. Much might be done to keep down crime if a Return of all revolvers were called for by a given date, and surrender of these weapons at a fair valuation made obligatory throughout the country. The penalty for non-compliance should be a stiff term of imprisonment. Permits to carry revolvers should be given in extreme cases only, and periodical production for inspection at the nearest police station called for.—E. M. Payne, Pembary Rd., Tonbridge.

Snobbery in Addresses.

It ought to be a criminal offence to give such a postal address as, say, "Many Turrets, Hampstead." Not only are the postmen thereby put to much inconvenience, but one sees poor little messenger boys or girls, heavily laden, vainly and tearfully enquiring for "Many Turrets"—usually a mediocre house which would at once be found as "100, Principal Street," but that straightforward address would not suit the grandiose owner or tenant! If people *will* persist in being snobs, they should be made to pay for what is to them a privilege and to the long-suffering public a ridiculous imposition.—J. S. Bannatyne, Pall Mall, S.W.

Nickel Coinage.

The introduction of nickel for our low-value coinage would be welcomed by everyone who has had experience of nickel currency on the Continent. The argument that English people would not take kindly to the innovation would be speedily disposed of when once the nickel was in circulation, while the change could be effected without inconvenience, for during its introduction nickel and bronze coins could be used indiscriminately, as is the case in France.—W. D. Brown, Grantham Street, Lincoln.

Wool Weight.

As practically everyone now wears something "home-knitted," it is important that the weight of wool *bought* should be *supplied*. In the shops they tell you, "We don't guarantee the weight of the skeins," and the shortage sometimes is considerable. Why put one man in prison, or fine him pounds, for giving short weight in butter or bacon, or even margarine, and let another who gives you much shorter weight in wool go scot-free?—(Mrs.) E. M. Richards, Laburnum Cottage, Fetcham, Leatherhead.

Life—or Latin.

The average clergyman goes straight from college into the pulpit. His knowledge of Life is theoretical rather than practical, and yet he proceeds to sermonise men and women as to their attitude towards business and other temptations. Let every clergyman have at least ten years' experience in business life. Then, with the knowledge of the world's temptations, a more human note will be found in his appeals. We want clergymen who understand Life as well as Latin.—G. Leo Clue, West St., Newport (I.-W.).

Cheap and Cosy Clogs.

Why do not the poorer classes in London follow the example of the Midlandites and let the kiddies wear clogs while leather is so dear, and in some cases unobtainable? Of five small boys I saw to-day only one had a pair of boots worthy of the name: the others were sloshing along the wet pavement in shocking footwear. Some objections to the noise of clogs may be made, but one soon gets used to the cheerful clatter, and dry feet are absolutely necessary to the kiddies, who would soon realise the benefit from warm, dry feet in clogs.—Lilian Hall, Carbyn St., Stroud Green.

The Inconsistent U.S.A.

The United States throw over the League of Nations, refuse a mandate for Armenia, and slash the Peace Treaty to ribbons with wholesale reservations, on the ground that they are averse from becoming embroiled in European quarrels and political questions. Immediately afterwards the House of Representatives discusses the Irish Question and carries a resolution "To send Ministers and Consuls to the Irish Republic." They refuse to enter European politics, but are not averse from meddling with a matter which is solely, at present, the concern of the British Empire!—J. H. Borrill, Argyle Square, London, W.C.

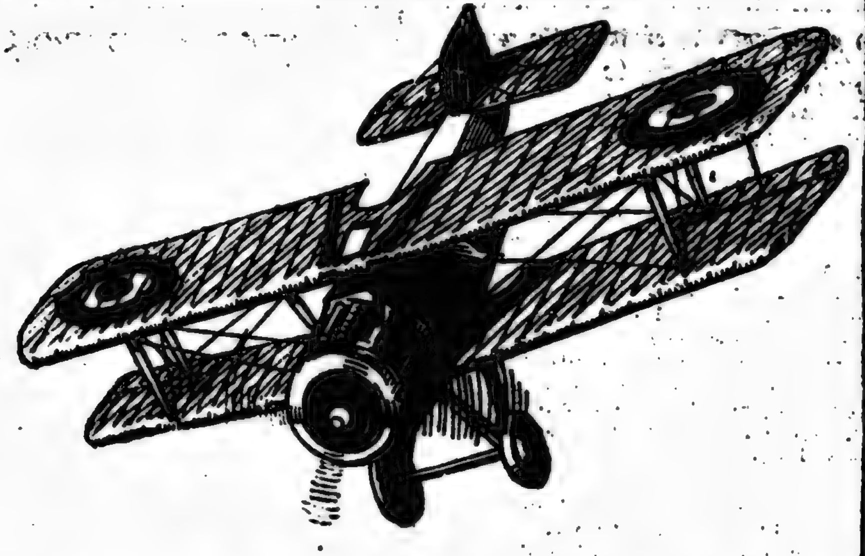
Taxation and Imagination.

The lack of imagination on the part of those who tax us is appalling. Just because tea and tobacco—to take two articles that might almost be called essentials—have always been taxed, it appears that they must be taxed still further whenever more revenue is required. Our Chancellors don't seem to have the gumption to seek for "fresh fields and pastures new." What about a 10s. tax per annum on bicycles? It would hurt nobody. And why not extend the entertainment tax to gramophone records, and levy anything from 1d. to 6d. on each one sold, according to the price of it?—H. G. Holme, Ainsworth St., Alverston.

The Milk Round.

During the war, whilst the country was in urgent need of men, the milk trade decided to reduce the house deliveries from two to one a day, in order to release as many men as possible for active service. This meant stale or sour milk for breakfast and the babies, but customers raised no objection, as the decision was the right thing *at the time*. Thousands of these milk roundsmen have since been demobilised, many with wound stripes, but are walking the streets looking for jobs. Let us now revert to pre-war two deliveries a day, and so give these men back their old work.—Wallace H. Finn, Waddon Park Avenue, Croydon.

The Full Story of the War in the Air, written without Fear or Favour, is now given to the Public for the first time.



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How the Allies Bombed Krupp's Works.
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These are but a mere handful of titles of the wonderful stories with which these volumes are filled. They indicate the many and varied aerial activities in the War; but are inadequate to give any real suggestion of the thrilling nature of the history which is here unfolded. During the War you had many hints and half-hints of glorious or disastrous happenings in the air. Here in these four volumes the full story is given to the public for the first time—complete.

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J.B.E., 1920. ....

The NATIONAL NEWS takes national views—every Sunday.

I AM TAK

Wonderful Response to My Letter——The I

By THE

AS I ventured to anticipate, there has been a wonderful response to the letter I addressed last week to the electors of the Wrekin Division, inviting their approval of the candidature at the forthcoming election of Mr. Charles Palmer, my brilliant colleague in the editorship of this journal. *And now I am taking odds!* Indeed, the attitude of the electors, several thousands of whom—and in using that phrase I do not mean two or three thousand—have signed and posted to me the forms submitted to them, leaves no doubt whatever in my mind that the opportunity to secure an independent Business candidate, of sane patriotic views, will be eagerly welcomed by all classes of voters, and not least by the women—who, with the perception of political realities that does them credit, have unmistakably signified their approval. Therefore, believing in the full right of "self-determination" for every British constituency, I have felt justified in urging Mr. Palmer to proceed with his candidature, the authority for which is derived not from any hidden caucus in London, or from the manœuvres of political wire-pullers, or the resolutions of hole-and-corner meetings, but from a large and representative vote of the electors. And that, of course, is how it should be. The machinery of the caucus—of secret conclaves and obscure negotiations behind the backs of the electors—has played far too large a part in our political life—the result being that many constituencies have been shockingly misrepresented by cranks or nonentities, with a "pull" in high parliamentary circles. It is high time a new and better precedent was created, and I am glad to have had a hand in it. For the reasons I stated last week, Mr. Palmer's candidature has my fullest support, and I shall do all in my power to secure his return to Parliament, but he does not, nor would he have consented to, go to the Wrekin Division simply as my nominee; he goes not as the representative of a newspaper or of any group of political interests, not as the nominee of any secret Party cabal, but as a candidate recommended to the electors by thousands of their own number. Frankly, I can conceive of no more democratic procedure, and if the system adopted on this occasion should lead to the liberation of constituencies from the tyranny of the Caucus, to the end of the "carpet-bagger," and the general adoption of men with brains and ideas and experience as Parliamentary candidates, I should feel that I have had a hand in a vital political reform.

Obligation Only to Conscience.

As it is to be what is known as a "three-cornered contest," so much the worse for one or other of the rival candidates. Having received an unmistakable mandate from a large body of responsible electors, Mr. Palmer has no thought of giving place to a candidate bound, if elected, to shout "Aye" or "No," to speak or to keep silence, as either the Government or the Labour Party whips may direct. That is not his conception of the duties of a Member of the House of Commons, and it certainly is not mine. If returned at the head of the poll, the Independent member will recognise no obligation save to his own conscience and to the electors of the Wrekin Division. Indeed, so determined is he to retain the right of free and independent judgment that should belong to every British legislator, that he prefers not to tie his hands with cast-iron pledges of support to this or that section of the community, electing to take his stand upon the great policy of patriotism, liberty, and equal justice for all—to which striking expression has been given in the letter which constitutes his "Address to the Electors"—and some passages from which I quote:

> I am no Party hack—and I have no personal axe to grind, but I am essentially a Parliament man, and my extensive knowledge of the workings of that institution convinces me of the urgent necessity for the introduction of new blood. That the old Party system is played out there can now be no doubt. Under it we drifted helplessly into the war—all unprepared for the great menace which was threatening us, and against which men like Lord Roberts, Lord Northcliffe and Mr. Bottomley were earnestly warning our politicians. And now that the ghastly thing is over we appear to be as unprepared for Peace as we were for War. While we are still haggling and temporising with Germany and Turkey, America and Japan are capturing our markets—with the result that the cost of living is ever rising, and the consequent increase in wages is of little benefit to the vast army of workers, who find that even with their larger earnings they are no better, but even worse, off than they were before the War. *And I shall keep a sharp eye on the Profiteer.*
>
> Further, for the last two years I have given special consideration to the great question of the future relationship between Capital and Labour—upon which subject my policy is summed up in, first of all, a liberal wage for the workers (with healthy homes, and reasonable recreation); secondly, a fair return for the use of Capital and the enterprise of employers; and, thirdly, a just and equitable division of anything left over between employers and employed. This, I submit to you, is a better policy than certain wild and fantastic schemes put forward in various quarters.

As sensible and practical men and women we must all realise, as the candidate points out, that "unless we are alert, Germany, who fooled us over the Armistice, and also over the Terms of Peace, will soon be on her legs again, dumping her cheap surplus goods into our markets." He proceeds:

> And what I have said applies with especial force to the Agricultural workers. We must never again be dependent upon foreign countries for our food. One of the great lessons of the war was that, even with a united Empire and a great Navy, our supplies are liable at any time to be cut off. No! Agriculture—our oldest and greatest industry—must be maintained at all cost; and we must have great national granaries and other food reserves against any contingency.
>
> From the social point of view, I hail the advent of women to political power. It has already wrought much good, and if only the women voters in Wrekin will give me their support, I promise to do my utmost to brighten that drab side of life which, as a general rule, has been their lot. And in this connection, I shall pay particular attention to the Housing and Education problems. It is nothing short of a scandal that, in a country like this, so many working-class families are compelled to live in hovels such as many a farmer would hesitate to put his pigs in. Then as regards the children. What a farce our present Education system is! I am all out for teaching youngsters something more useful than most of the nonsense which to-day passes for "Education." I want them to be prepared for the lives which are before them; while, in cases of either family or business emergency, it should not be an offence for a child to be occasionally kept at home.
>
> As regards the heads of families, by restricting work to more reasonable and decent hours and paying proper wages, I want to get back, if possible, to the old days of "Merrie England."
>
> I do not regard it as a sin for the working-man to have his glass of beer, or even of whisky, but it must be good and wholesome—not the washy stuff which, under Government control has exasperated us all during the past few years. Neither harvesters, nor millhands, nor miners, nor other strenuous manual labourers can get through their work on ginger-beer; and while I am all for reforming and improving the public-house, I claim that the industrial classes should have the same facilities for reasonable refreshment as those enjoyed by their employers.
>
> One other matter which will have my most earnest attention is that of Government waste. The expenses of our various public departments must be ruthlessly cut down, and there must be a wholesale clearing out of holders of sinecures, incompetents and office hunters. Whatever other description may be applied to me, I am through-and-through an Anti-Waste Candidate.
>
> The distressing position of the Middle Classes, and the crushing burden of taxation forced upon their shoulders, is also ever present in my mind.
>
> One final word. I am not fighting this election as an enemy of the Coalition Government. I want to help it; and, Goodness knows it sorely needs help. The day of the "Coupon-man"—pledged to open his mouth and shut his eyes and see what Lloyd George will send him—is past. What is wanted is independent, well-informed criticism and assistance.

If I were an elector of the Wrekin Division, I should peruse this document from which I have quoted many times. It contains food for reflection not only for those who are about to exercise their votes,

AKING ODDS!

he Importance of Wrekin——An All-British Policy.

THE EDITOR.

but for others who were "taken in and done for" in December, 1918. I will not stay just now to discuss the ethics of electioneering, although it is a fascinating theme; all I have to say on this head is that a candidate in the Wrekin Division, or anywhere else, who promises what can by no possibility be achieved within the period for which he is elected, encouraging people to believe that, in a complex society like ours, the "millennium" can be ushered in by a few hasty strokes of legislation, and teaching that the whole social structure can be turned upside down, and everyone made richer by destroying Capital and Enterprise—the mainsprings of production—is obtaining, or endeavouring to obtain, the confidence of the electors on false and fraudulent pretences. The sane policy as between Capital and Labour is one, not of Combat, but of Co-operation—or, as I do not hesitate to say, of Co-partnership in the toils and in the fruits of industry. Why, even the leaders of Labour—we will not stay to quarrel over the title—are beginning to recognise that the mere advance of money wages, over which in the past they have been prepared to carry on internal civic war with employers and the State, is of little or no use until increased production has overcome the scarcity which is the main cause of soaring prices. To speak in a parable, you cannot have plenty while the world's barns are empty, and the reapers' time and energy spent in quarrelling how the waiting harvest shall be shared. I frame no indictment of any section of the community—long ago I formed the conclusion that white-robed angels do not flourish in our climate—and in the industrial controversy I frankly recognise that there are faults and merits on both sides. But I do say this: with Germany getting into her stride again, and accepting the penance of hard labour as the price of commercial recovery; with America and Japan—the two great Powers that suffered least in the war—capturing the world's markets; with all kinds of goods in this country at famine prices, so that Hunger lurks at the door of thousands of British homes—with these burning problems to contend with, *we have no time to quarrel*,

Practical, Common Sense Policy.

It is really idle and stupid to say that things would be better if the mines were nationalised, if the railways were public property, if private capitalism were abolished, if every industry were controlled by the workers, and so on through the whole catalogue of Socialist panaceas; even if these nostrums were as sane and realisable as they are for the most part wild and visionary—how long, in the name of reason, is it going to take to bring them into practical operation? Shall we estimate the time in years or centuries? What is required is an immediate, workable, commonsense policy for our urgent needs—something that can be applied here and now to the solution of problems that grow hourly more acute. No need to wait for a serviceable Housing scheme till you have built Utopia. By that time we shall all be eligible—at least, I hope so—for the "heavenly mansions." As long as a man has a good wage, fair hours, and a share of the profits of the business—I am considering the policy outlined by Mr. Palmer—he surely need not, and ought not to, sulk by the side of his job until the nation has been converted to the principle of "nationalisation," which may be never—and cannot be soon. When a house is ablaze we do not wait until a committee of experts has devised some cleverer contrivance than a fire-hose for putting out the flames. At the present crisis in the life of the nation we need in the realm of public affairs, and especially in Parliament, not dreamers and theorists with grandiose schemes for the future, but hard-headed men of affairs with practical ideas for the present. The job straight ahead of us is to get the old machinery going again, the wheels of production spinning, the pistons of prosperity at work; then, at any rate, we shall be sure of a livelihood, of a decent suit of clothes, of something on the table for the missus and the kids. After that, if you like, we will consider whether any of the "new model" engines will do the work better, and—what is scarcely less important—whether we can afford the cost. But meanwhile we must live. There is one phrase in Mr. Palmer's Election Address which I specially commend to the attention of—shall I say—his future constituents? "It is nothing short of a scandal," he says, "that in a country like this so many working-class families are compelled to live in hovels such as many a farmer would hesitate to put his pigs in." Unfortunately, this is undoubtedly a "true bill,' and it is a crying shame.

What Labour Might Have Done.

Primarily, the Government are to blame for the scandalous delay that has aggravated the housing problem, but in my opinion the Labour Party are not without their share of responsibility for the shelving of this urgent question. The problem is one that should have peculiarly appealed to them; and I have no hesitation in saying that if the Labour Members of Parliament had worked out a practical, business-like scheme, and rallied the Trade Unions to its support, they could have forced the hands of His Majesty's Government by legitimate constitutional means. But, bless you, no; all they have done is to throw cold water on every project that has been advanced, and to expend their eloquence on subjects having less than a tithe of the importance attaching to the provision of decent homes for the people. That, of course, is the penalty of having a "Socialist" Labour Party, imbued with the spurious history and false economics of Karl Marx, Engels, and their German countrymen, rather than a true British People's Party with their feet on solid ground and their eyes at the level of everyday necessities. Really, I sometimes wonder how the Labour extremist has the "cheek" to tell the British workman, the clerk, shopman, or artisan, that what he needs for the enjoyment of life is "the socialisation of the means of production, distribution, and exchange." It is all rot and rubbish; what the good fellow needs—and shall have as far as my voice and pen can compass it—is a decent roof over his head; a man's job, and a man's pay for doing it; an abundance of good food at reasonable prices for himself and his family; a glass of good beer when the day's work is done—and a fair share of any extra profit that his industry has earned, so that there may be a bit in the bank for a rainy day. Do you tell me that it is impossible to guarantee these simple boons—which ought, mark you, to be part of the birthright of every British citizen—without importing Bolshevism from Russia, smashing Capital, destroying private enterprise, and launching the frail fabric of British industry, still trembling from the shock of war, upon the hazardous path of Socialistic experiment? What I say is that every social end that just men seek, every right and privilege that is consistent with the general well-being of the nation, can be obtained within the ambit of our peaceful Constitution by the pressure of free and independent Members upon a Government alive to the claims of humanity and justice.

I am Taking Odds!

Personally, I am not wedded to the fortunes of the present Coalition. Speaking for the general mass of loyal citizens, I say deliberately that if Ministers do not honestly serve the great causes to which they paid lip-service at the last Election—they shall go! But, first of all, I want to try the effects of a little more "gingering-up" from the benches where private members sit; hence my desire to have the assistance of a man whose worth I have come to know and appreciate in the daily intimacy of the past four years of close personal association. As Mr. Palmer well says, he is an "enemy" neither of the Coalition nor of Labour. I know where his sympathies lie; and if in the future there is any measure of fair and honest reform that lacks his support, I shall be mistaken in my man. But he will not truckle to the threat of Revolution and will lend no countenance to those savage principles—call them by what fantastic names you will—under whose banner the new tyrants of Russia and their imitators elsewhere have marched through rapine and bloodshed to the dismemberment of civilised Society. Progress certainly, but not by the methods of barbarism. It will be in some respects the most momentous of the by-elections, significant alike for the Coalition and for Labour. And however the official Parties may ridicule our chance—*I am taking odds!*

IN THE BARBER'S CHAIR.

MR. T. D. BOWLES, OF THE PEARL INSURANCE COMPANY.

Good evenin', sir. *'Air cut?* Cert'n'y, sir. . There's the 'at pegs be'ind you, sir. Bitter weather, sir, ain't it? . . . *You don't think it's extra cold?* Well, p'r'aps it ain't, to them wot kin afford fur-lined coats, good red wine to their dinners, an' roarin' fires at 'ome. But I'm thinkin' of the pore, sir. . . . Eh? *There ain't no pore?* Do you go about with yore eyes shut, sir?—if you'll excuse the question. . . . Oh, you think *your eyes is as wide open as anybody's*, do you? Well, p'r'aps you dwell in marble 'alls, as the song ses, an' don't see the ups an' downs o' life. . . . Oh, you *don't*. . . . *You live at a very bleak 'all, at Kensworth, near Dunstable*, do you? Strange, I seem to 'ave 'eard thet address before. It'll come to me presently, I dessay. But as I was sayin', sir, this weather's shockin' 'ard for the pore, wot you say don't exist. I was thinkin' about them pore Pearl Inshorance blokes wot are on strike. Pore fellers! They must be 'avin' a nard time. . . . . . .

* * * * * *

But they be got public symperthy with 'em, an' public support, an' they'll win the day. . . . Wot's thet you sed? *Oh, no, they won't!* W'y not? Wot about the Army an' Navy Stores strike? Thet was another one wot 'ad the symperthy o' the public, an' the greedy grarspin' directors 'ad to give in. It'll be the same with the Pearl Inshorance Company, fur all their bluff. . . . *You don't think so?* You seem to know a lot about it, but you don't appear to appreciate the strength o' public opinion. What about the lightnin' railway strike? That didn't 'ave no public support, did it? . . . No; very well, then—it fizzled out quicker'n wot most of us dared to 'ope. W'ereas, the Army and Navy Stores strike, 'avin' the support o' the public, was carried to a successful conclusion for the strikers. It'll be the same with the Pearl Inshorance strike. Wait till the public realises thet the Company paid a dividend o' 50 per cent., free of Income Tax, on the bizniss of 1918. Wait till the public git *thet* in their 'ead. Jew think they won't support them pore devils o' collectors then, wot'er on'y arskin' for a minimum wage o' three quid a week—worth thirty bob or less, at present prices? 'Ow the duce sich a rich company 'as the cheek to refuse sich a reasonable demand puzzles me. The directors must be dotty. The Chairman cert'n'y is. 'E was silly enough to say all the public in England would not make the Company increase the earnin's of the agents. Let 'em wait an' see, the dirty sweater! . . . *Mind wot I'm sayin'?* Wot jer mean? So 'e is, and I wouldn't mind if 'e 'eard me say it. 'Ow would 'e like to keep 'imself an' kids on three quid a week, walk 'eaven knows 'ow many miles a day to earn it, an' buy 'is own boots? Bowles, 'is name is, but 'e carn't be Bowles by nacher, cos 'e ain't got no Bowels o' compassion. It's a dirty game altogether, thet industrial inshorance, squeezin' coppers outer the porest o' the pore. But thet ain't no reason w'y the agents shouldn't be paid enough to keep body an' soul together.

* * * * * *

It's 'ard to believe the Company was started by a few workin' men for the benefit o' workin' men. Now it's run by bloomin' plutocrats wot denies a livin' wage to their servants wot wear out body an' soul to earn 'em their 50 per cent. dividends! Pah! I reckon if any money stinks, *that* do. . . . . There you are, sir. You're lookin' pale, sir. Ain't you well? . . . Blimy, wot a look! An' jest chucked a tanner down, an' 'opped it without a word! . . Queer. Wait a minnit. . . . W'ere did 'e say 'e lived? W'y, Kensworth, near Dunstable! Blow'd if thet ain't were the Chairman o' the Pearl don't live! No wonder 'e looked cross, ha-ha! 'E'll patronise me again, wot? I don't think, not 'arf. Ha-ha! I feel as pleased as a dorg with two waggers! . . .

PRINTER'S PIE.

(Half-a-crown is paid to the sender of each item published under this heading. Envelopes must be marked "Pie.")

"NORTHERN DAILY TELEGRAPH":—"The full weekly (old age) pension of 10s. is payable to those whose income from other sources does not exceed £26 5s. PER WEEK."

"SUNDERLAND DAILY ECHO" (advertisement):—"Walking Sticks have a vogue since the war, equal to the days when no man could be considered 'dressed' without a CLOUDED CAN."

"DAILY CHRONICLE":—"Not only did he ride the winners of the TWO big races at the meeting, but he rode TWO other winners yesterday, making THREE IN ALL."

"BRADFORD DAILY ARGUS" (advertisement):—"Joiners Wanted, for long job; hours worked 46½ per week; rate 1s. 11d. PER WEEK."

"GOLD COAST INDEPENDENT":—"Two lorries . . . came into collision. The ENGINES WERE SMASHED but NO ACCIDENT OCCURRED."

WALTHAMSTOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL (circular):—"Your House Refuse will be collected on SATURDAY in each week . . . commencing 5TH JANUARY, 1920."

"BOURNEMOUTH DAILY ECHO" (advertisement):—"Good WOODEN GLASS DOORS, 30s. each."

"BIRMINGHAM MAIL" (advertisement):—"St. James', Ashted. WATCH NIGHT SERVICE. To-night, JANUARY 31, at 11 p.m."

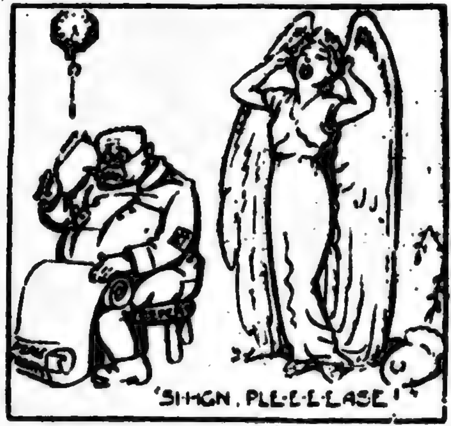
"WEYMOUTH AND PORTLAND STANDARD" (advertisement):—"Select DANCES will be held on Monday, Wednesday and Saturday IN FIVE REELS."

"HERTS ADVERTISER & ST. ALBANS TIMES" (advertisement):—"LADY wishes to Buy Cottage Piano; EX-SOLDIER."

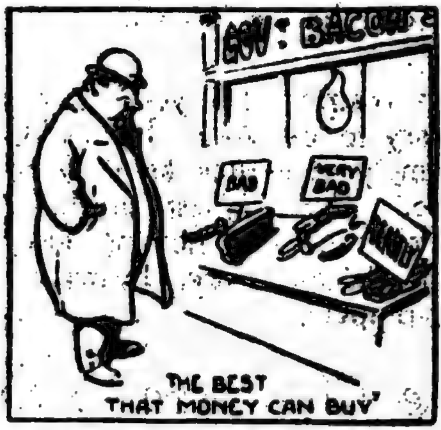
"DAILY SKETCH":—"Attacked from behind by a young man with a REVOLVER, Mr. —— had a remarkable escape from death . . . He was attacked by a man armed with an OLD JAPANESE BAYONET."

"EVESHAM JOURNAL" (advertisement):—"Wanted . . a respectable MIDDLE-AGED single YOUNG man."

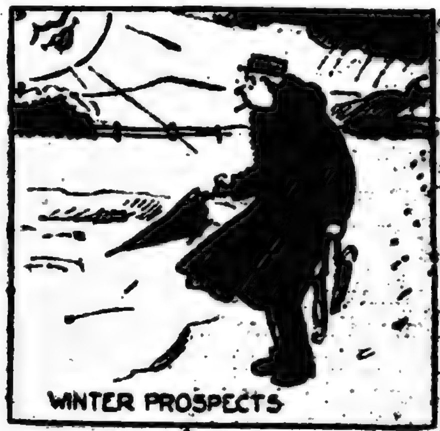
"JOHN BULL'S" WEEKLY CINEMA.


'SI-HGN, PLE-E-E-LASE!'

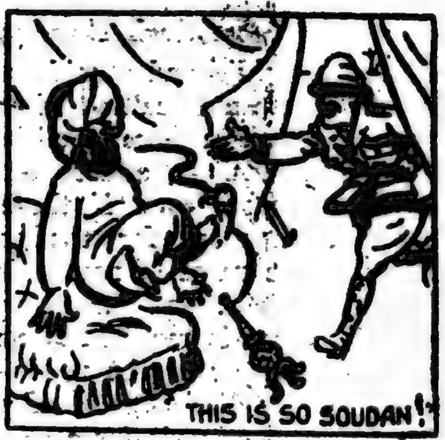
Great patience Peace has long been showing,
But she at last was restless growing.


GOV: BACON
BAD
VERY BAD
'THE BEST THAT MONEY CAN BUY'

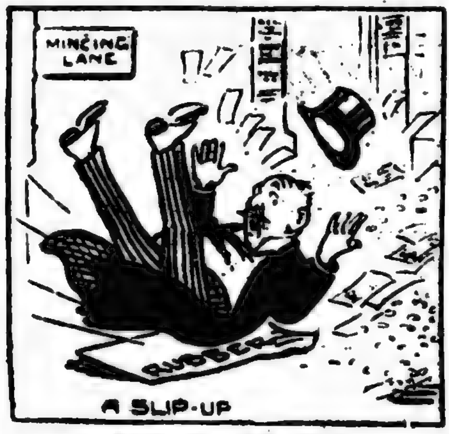
Most of the bacon we have had
Has been superlatively bad.



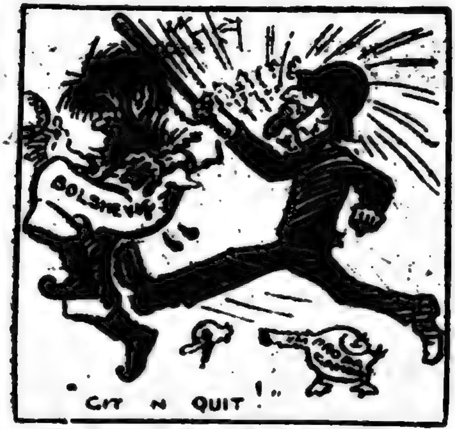
From day to day we never know
Whether to look for shine or snow.


THIS IS SO SOUDAN!

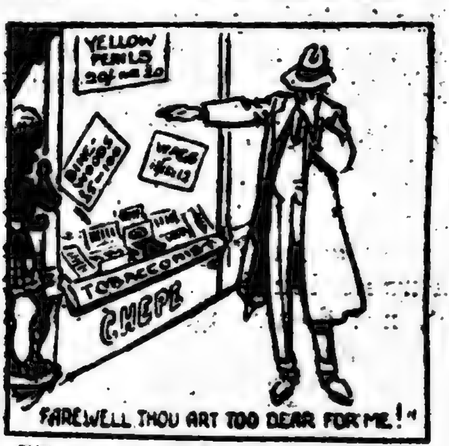
What sort of motive must it be
Takes Allenby to Araby?



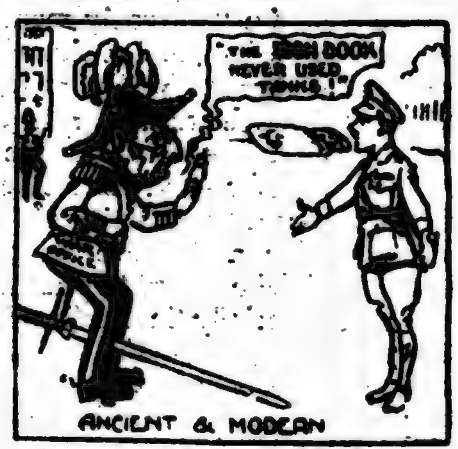
A nasty tumble, at the best,
Since half-a-million quids go west!



The Yankees know the proper trick
For dealing with the Bolshevik.



Still 'neath the profiteer's hard yoke
We now must pay more for our smoke.



A queer way of expressing thanks
For the fine work done by the tanks!

GODFREY PHILLIPS'

Pinnace

CIGARETTES.

WRAPPED IN TIN FOIL.

Habit or Happiness?

Quite a lot of people smoke simply as a habit. The pleasure they get is negligible

There are others, however, who find Happiness in courting "My Lady Nicotine."

It all depends upon the kind of Tobacco or the sort of Cigarettes you smoke.

If you get PINNACE Cigarettes you will "click lucky," and experience the utmost of satisfaction and pleasure that smoking affords.

PINNACE were made to give pleasure.

And from the moment you lift one lightly to your lips till the moment you throw the end regretfully away, you taste nothing but the deep joy that comes only from the perfect cigarette.

The reason, did you ask? That's easy to explain. PINNACE are simply cigarettes as they ought to be. Just highest grade Virginia Tobacco and nothing else, rolled in dainty, pure, hygienic paper wrappers.

The Cigarette with the "bite" taken out.

PINNACE
NAVY CUT
MEDIUM STRENGTH
CIGARETTES

10 for $5\frac{1}{2}$D.

Godfrey Phillips, Limited, London.

JOHN BULL AT PLAY.

RACING, FOOTBALL, BOXING AND OTHER SPORTING NOTES.

RACING.

The strength of the entries for the Spring Handicaps can in all truth be described as having exceeded the most sanguine anticipations. Who says the racing boom will not extend over another year? There are, throughout 1920, likely to be more horses, more owners, and more people to participate in the Sport of Kings.

We can now look to the weights with more than usual interest, always remembering that the Cambridgeshire form usually works out well at Lincoln. However, there is ample time in which to arrive at a decision. We must first have the weights.

Cygnus, for whom Sir James Buchanan paid a very big figure, has not been entered in the Lincolnshire Handicap. Some people expected him to be. He is in the Kempton Park "Jubilee," and if only he stands training one of the year's big handicaps or cups will probably fall to him. The son of Sunstar, who is now under Fred Darling's charge at Beckhampton, has also been nominated for the Gold Cup at Ascot.

Mr. N. E. Ambatselos, the rich Greek owner, is likely to run a few horses in England next June.

Sir George Bullough has hitherto confined his attention to racing under N. H. rules, but this flat race season he will have a number of well-bred two-year-olds to carry his colours. They are being prepared for him by J. Jarvis, Park Lodge, Newmarket, and as Ascot engagements have been made for them the inference is that they have already shown some little promise.

Sir John Thursby having, we regret to see, retired from the enjoyment of ownership, has sold his Malton establishment to Mr. C. F. Kenyon. The latter cloaked his identity last year under the assumed name of Mr. Tilstock, Little Vic winning a race for him at Goodwood.

One or two of the Editor's horses should prove equal to winning at Hurst Park, Macmerry and Irish Fair, for instance, on Saturday.

Dale handled Longerline so well in mufti at Plumpton, the Editor has decided he shall don silk on the mare in the Novices' 'Chase at Hurst Park on Friday, and we shall look to her to figure very prominently.

BOXING.

It makes us tired to read on one and the same day that the Carpentier and Dempsey fight has definitely been fixed for California, and (from a Paris source) that the whole thing is a "gigantic bluff." Is it not time that all this nonsense ceased in regard to big sporting events, in which at present the interests of promoters appear to be paramount, whilst those of the public are relegated to oblivion?

National and International official control would appear to be the only remedy to prevent the "auction sale" process bringing the game into ridicule, and, even worse, the elimination of public interest and support, and the "killing of the goose."

That was a fine "scoop" in *The National News* on the true inwardness of the Jimmy Wilde business in America. After fêting and feasting the famous little fellow, the least the American "authorities" could have done was to have given him ample opportunity to get fit and go through with his programme. The laying down of conditions in this respect was regarded as an insult by Jimmy's friends on this side, who cabled him to come home as soon as they heard of it. What a pity astute Ted Lewis was unable to go over and manage affairs for Wilde. We are glad to note, however, that Jimmy in his contest with Johnny Asher, a much-boomed bantam, came back to his finest form.

ATHLETICS.

It is reported that the Olympic Games Committee have received a request for the 1924 games to be held in Nova Scotia. It is a long way, but it would please us better if eventually they shelved off the map, for all the good they are.

WEEK'S RACING SELECTIONS.

TENBY—WEDNESDAY.
Victory Hurdle—*LIFE BUOY.
Wroughton 'Chase—GERALD L.

TENBY—THURSDAY.
Deer Park 'Chase—BALLYMENDEL.
Lawrenny 'Chase—*W. W.

HURST PARK—FRIDAY.
Cardinal Hurdle—PALMLESS.
Molesey Hurdle—*ANDOVER or IRISH FAIR.
New Year Hurdle—BALLYHANDY.
Novices' 'Chase—TRENTINO.

HURST PARK—SATURDAY.
Wolsey Hurdle—STORM WITCH.
Norbiton 'Chase—*MINSTREL PARK.
Thames 'Chase—SILVER RING.
Mitre 'Chase—BERNSTEIN.

CRICKET.

Eton are in luck, with George Hirst as their prospective coach. If ever there was a professional player who retained a soul for the game, and regarded the monetary gains as a secondary consideration, it is this large-hearted Yorkshireman. We wish him luck in his new sphere.

Result of Football Competition No. 16.

Six of the sixteen matches played on January 3rd were drawn, whilst Clyde *v.* St. Mirren was abandoned. Thus nine winning teams were left to select from. No competitor succeeded in naming the whole nine, but the following ten competitors each gave eight, and therefore divide the prize of £400:—

H. Wilson, 23, St. Leonards Road, Southend-on-Sea; A. Wolstincroft, 11a, Eckersley Road, Bolton, Lancs.; M. Rees, 2, Turberville Terrace, Penygraig, Rhondda Valley; G. Mealing, 27, Torrens Road, Stratford, E. 15; Miss F. Chapman, 19, Northesk Street, Stone, Staffs.; E. Warren, Dewlish, near Dorchester; E. G. Horler, Down View, Felton, Winford, Somerset; F. Pugh, 165, Mill Street, Ancoats, Manchester; W. Urwin, Ivy House, Seghill, Newcastle-on-Tyne; G. Leaver, 2, Wilton Road, Bexhill-on-Sea.

This week £250 will be paid to the sender of ten winning teams or the next largest number of winning teams. £250 *must be won* this week. Fill up the free coupon on page iii. without delay. Next week our Football Prize will be increased to £500 for *one week only*, in connection with the second round for the English Cup. On no account miss this remarkable offer.

BILLIARDS.

There are rumours of the reappearance of Edward Diggle, most delightful of players when in the mood. Diggle, who looks so serious, is by way of being a dry humorist. We recall an occasion when he startled an already harassed "spot-boy," who could do little right, by asking him to pull the table out a little, the cue ball at the time being tacked up by a cushion!

FOOTBALL.

Not so long ago we made an appeal in JOHN BULL to the townspeople of Southend to rally to the support of the local United Club. Now, however, so far as we are concerned, Southend United can go hang, for this selling of their privilege of playing at home in the first round of the Cup for a "mess of pottage" gets on our bile. The Directors may argue that the support for the Club has been inadequate, but is this the way to encourage it? There is the broader question of the general welfare of the "sport," and we assert, emphatically, that the Football Association should strictly prohibit the practice of damping the ardour of local loyalists, which is the inevitable result of "filthy lucre" being the Alpha and Omega of professional football. Better than that a club should be "saved" in this way would it be for it to suffer extinction.

Should a professional at one sport be permitted to play as an amateur in another? It is a moot question, and it is prompted by the selection of Jerry Shea, the well-known boxer, for the Welsh Rugby XV. to oppose England at Swansea on the 17th inst. This is in no wise intended to cast the slightest reflection on this very fine player, but we have in mind the case of a well-known professional Association footballer, who is a first-class lawn tennis player, and has failed repeatedly to get permission from the Lawn Tennis Association to play in their open tournaments. There seems to be an anomaly somewhere, and a need for concerted action on the part of the various controlling bodies of sport. Willie Quaife, the great Warwickshire cricketer, for instance, was permitted to play as an amateur for his County at hockey, the strictest of all amateur games, and yet we have the Henley authorities enforcing the severest and most extreme restrictions in regard to their regatta qualifications.

HOCKEY.

We are on the verge of the international hockey trials and the international matches. The East are due to play the Midlands, and it would interest us to know why T. W. Mansergh, the Cambridge University forward, has been omitted from the Eastern Counties' team. The preference has been given to S. H. Saville, the old international, presumably on past reputation; but, when it comes to current form, we confidently assert that Mansergh is the forward discovery of the year. If Saville, who is the popular Cambridge and Middlesex cricketer, should suddenly strike his old-time form, he would, of course, be "It"—but, anyway, the International Selection Committee should not be influenced unduly by the whims of those responsible for the Divisional teams, who are supposed to select their men on a proper standard of merit.

Similarly, we should like to know why J. C. Masterman, the brilliant Oxfordshire forward, has been passed over by the Southern Counties. He played in the Southern trial at inside left, and was the best forward on the field. The inside left, however, for the South is to be A. D. Stocks, whose brilliance we will not deny—for this wonderful player, who was formerly England's left half-back, can excel in any position. What will he think of us when we tell him that his ideal position is full back? But we make the reservation that we have not yet seen him as a goalkeeper!

BADMINTON.

Badminton is a most popular game with the stars of the lawn tennis courts, some of whom declare it to keep them fitter for lawn tennis than indulging in the latter game all the year round. It breaks the monotony and they come fresher to the courts in the summer.

FIRST PRIZE

£200

SECOND PRIZE - £20

THIRD PRIZE - £10

10 Prizes of £2 : 10 each
50 „ „ 10s. „
100 „ „ 5s. „
400 „ „ 2s. 6d. „

And 1,000 Merit Prizes
consisting of two free coupons for a subsequent competition, or they can be exchanged for 1s. cash.

The result of this Competition will appear in "The Passing Show" dated February 7th.

"PASSING SHOTS"

An entirely new Competition.

AN interesting and novel form of Word Competition is starting in THE PASSING SHOW under the name of "Passing Shots." It is one that will particularly appeal to all readers of JOHN BULL. The method of constructing these fascinating phrases is simple :—

WHAT YOU HAVE TO DO.

First choose any one of the thirty examples given below. Then give two, three, or four words, bearing apt relation to the example selected, **ANY TWO** of which **must** begin with the **same** letter, and this can be any letter in the alphabet. The two words beginning with the same initial letter need not be consecutive.

For instance, if you select the example: "LLOYD GEORGE," you might give the "Passing Shot": "MOST PROMISING OF POLITICIANS." Or from the example: "GEORGE ROBEY," the "Passing Shot": "MAKES EVERYBODY MERRY" might be given. Take for an example: "SPOILS TRADE," and you could give the "Passing Shot": "BARBER'S BALDNESS." Competitors can send in two "Passing Shots" on one Coupon for 6d. These "Passing Shots" can each be constructed either from the same or from two different examples.

Try "PASSING SHOTS" on the Coupon below.

(NOTE: An entrance fee at the rate of 6d. for each coupon must be enclosed.)

Examples for "Passing Shots" Competition No. 1.

MY NEW YEAR RESOLVE
IN THE HOUSE
DURING THE HONEYMOON
MY WIFE
REVUE DRESSES
TRYING TO BORROW
PLAIN SPEAKING
THE BRITISH NAVY
PRINCE OF WALES
PROFIT AND LOSS
AFTER WAR
A BIG SURPRISE
LLOYD GEORGE
WEDDING DAY
PRINCIPAL BOY
MOST ANNOYING WHEN
FANCY WORK
A VAIN DREAM
GEORGE ROBEY
PRETTY MAID
CAPITAL AND LABOUR
BEST MAN
IN IRELAND
WE ALL WANT
MATRIMONY
RULING PASSION
NOT AT HOME
HARD LUCK
IN THE DARK
STEALING A KISS

CUT HERE

Closing Date, Wednesday, January 21st.

Example..

Passing Shot

Example..

1 Passing Shot

P.O. No. ....
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced in THE PASSING SHOW.
If this coupon is used P.O. for 6d. must be sent.

Signed ....
Address ....

Envelopes should be marked "Passing Shots" No. 1, "Passing Show," 91, Long Acre, London, W.C.2.

Further Coupons and full conditions will be found in this week's number of

"THE PASSING SHOW"

ON SALE EVERYWHERE——— 2d.

M. Georges Carpentier

(Champion of Europe) states:

"It affords me much pleasure in testifying to the great value of Fry's Cocoa and Chocolate. They are the foods *par excellence* to train on in order to ensure physical fitness. Their nutritive properties are incontestable, and I cordially recommend them. The leading explorers, aviators and sportsmen have sung the praises of the firm, and I gladly join in the chorus."

Georges Carpentier.

"There is one best in everything."

This is the tin
that ALWAYS contains
The Highest-Quality Polish

MELTONIAN PASTE

(Black, Brown and Toney Red.)

Don't take our word for it
Try it yourself
It has 100 years' reputation behind it.

MELTONIAN PASTE
BLACK
For Cleaning & Polishing
BOX CALF GLACE KID &c

QUICK
LASTING
WATERPROOF

The NATIONAL NEWS—a clean Sunday newspaper.

"TOMMY AND JACK."

Dealing also with the Discharged Sailor and Soldier and their Dependents.

OUR PLEDGE.—"No case of hardship or injustice, no instance of beggarly treatment or mean cheese-paring, shall go unchallenged and unremedied."—*Horatio Bottomley*, 19th August, 1916.

"TOMMY."

The Boys are Returning:—Our post-bag is glutted with letters from mothers and sweethearts asking us to have all eligible men sent back from Mesopotamia and India. Everything possible is being done, and the boys are daily being brought home in the "big ships of prey"—as Kipling calls the troopers. We ask our correspondents to live in hope. One day soon, their soldiers will enter their doors like surprise packets.

Send Them Home:—Within four miles of Wimereux there is a unit of crocked-up oldsters—most of them grandfathers. They are called soldiers, but they deny the charge. They are ill-fed; they are next door to useless; and when they trudge about four miles to the doctor they are usually given "Medicine and Duty." For the sake of common-sense, send the men home to look after their grandchildren, and let real soldiers do their work.

In the Cold:—The Almeric Paget Military Massage Corps—now the Military Massage Service—have received no bonus or gratuity. Why? Is this another Treasury bilk? We must remember that the unit did wonderful things for our wounded men. But in the late war it was not always the deserving who got the cakes.

The Wrong Way:—Men of the 7th Batt. Machine Gun Corps, and other units who have but a few months further to serve, are being sent east of Suez, whereas long service fellows are being ordered to the Rhine. Seems a bit strange, but we must remember that the men sent to India must do an extra year before demobilisation. See it? One more of the Whitehall tricks.

"JACK."

Back at Last:—We hinted a few weeks ago that the fleets and flotillas in the Baltic would be returning immediately. We were right, and we congratulate our Jacks. At the same time we thank the many bluejackets who praise us for the "Bottomley store ship" which we had sent out, and which proved such a boon.

Why?—Why should the Trawler Section at Devonport still be waiting for demobilisation? They are "duration-of-war" men, and are keen to get back to fishing to support their families. There is no need for a care and maintenance party to look after each boat.

From the East:—The crew of H.M.T. *Hannover* left Leith in September with an Army doctor on board. When they wrote to us they were at Constantinople, and they allege that they have no doctor—nothing but a "Linseed Lancer" sergeant. As the crew is a fairly large one and the Bosphorous and Golden Horn—to say nothing about the surroundings—are not very healthy, we feel that the men should be better looked after.

At Malin Head:—The ratings manning the wireless stations at Malin Head, in Co. Donegal, are not satisfied with the leave regulations at present in force. They are allowed 21 days' leave with a free pass; but the nearest railway station is ten miles off, and the intervening distance has to be covered on a hired car, the return journey costing £2 5s. Having regard to the fact that this sum, plus a seaman's half-fare voucher, would take a man to any part of the British Isles, we consider that Whitehall should do something to improve the position—although the Admiral at Queenstown has turned the matter down.

"THE SILVER BADGERS."

Secretaries of Discharged Sailors' and Soldiers' organisations, in sending cases of injustice or other information, should mark their envelopes "Silver Badgers."

These Pirated Funds:—Regarding the £7,000,000 of the profits on sales to Tommy and Jack retained by the Canteen people, and now being thrown around, we regret that the Church Army was called in to disburse a proportion of the money. Each applicant for a little bit is questioned like a candidate for a Cabinet Minister's secretaryship, and as a result the Church Army is being given the go-by. As an ex-N.C.O. recently asked:—"Why do they want to give this money away so honestly, when it was obtained so damnably dishonestly?" However, it is a case of "better late than never."

Robbed—then Insulted:—Ex-soldiers who were victims of this Canteen profiteering are asked to apply for clerical jobs to help to disburse the pelf wrested from themselves. When they volunteer their services for the purpose to the concerns to whom the work has been entrusted, they are offered pay which if tendered to a road sweeper would excite him to a wonderful flow of language. We know that Lord Byng desired to do what was best with the fund: but we are afraid he made a mistake here.

Sanitary Officer, Attention!—A Badger in a West London Hotel tells us that he works 88 hours a week for £1 and his food. Dickens' waiter "ate broken wittles and slept on the coals." But our correspondent and other servants are very slightly better off—indeed, the recital of woes suggests that they should all be down with typhoid fever. The very reading of the story makes one inclined to feel ill; but we have no doubt that the demobilised Algy and his flapper who pay a week's screw for their entertainment upstairs never suspect. If the Sanitary Officer wishes for details, he may have them in confidence.

"THE GREATEST OF THESE—"

[The object of our Fund is to relieve (a) the dependents of our Soldiers and Sailors; and (b) suffering amongst the people generally. No genuine appeal is ever refused, and although we see to it that adequate proof is presented in every case relieved, no harassing or degrading questions are put to applicants. Will you please help? We gladly defray all expenses of administration.]

The Cadgers:—In Bruce House, Kemble Street, Drury Lane, and in the Rowton Houses, are a number of work-shys, and we have very many applications from them. These undesirables are, happily, a small minority of the inhabitants. We are certainly not out to help the cadgers who call themselves "heroes," and who will not help themselves. In a word, some fellows who never did an honest day's work joined the Army, when compelled to do so under the Act, and have, by the goodness of Providence, come back. They fancy that they should be kept by the State, the taxpayer, or anybody, including our fund, until they die! We size-up the wrong ones on the spot.

But the Genuine:—On the other hand, we have hundreds who are starving, others who need raiment, many who are in terrible distress, and still more who have been made too poor to keep up the insurances to secure their infants or their elders from pauper burial. All of these we gladly look after.

Among the numerous cases we assisted during the week were the following:—

One Big, Six Small, Troubles:—A discharged man is unable to work, but has a wife and six small children to keep. Recently a baby died, and now another is ill.

A Widow with Two:—A widow has two young children to maintain. Her only support—her son—was killed at the front, and in respect of him she receives a pension of 5s. a week only.

A Fruitless Search:—An ex-soldier left his family in the country and came to London to look for work, in which he has not been successful. His wife and children were in want at home, and he was in financial distress here.

The Reaper:—Again we have had to find funds for the burial of children of ex-soldiers in distress. And, unfortunately, such claims upon us show no signs of falling off.

AN EX-SOLDIER'S STRUGGLE.

(A case typical of the many of distress and hardship which have been relieved by our Fund during the week.)

Naturally the demobilised soldier or sailor has the first claim upon our sympathy—a case that strongly appeals to us being that of a poor fellow at Plumstead, discharged from the Army last June, and since employed as a bricklayer by a firm of contractors at Woolwich. Since his return to civil life, the problem confronting this good fellow has been to support a wife and five young children on a wage which, owing to the cold and damp weather, has seldom exceeded 50s. a week, the whole of his small Army gratuity having been absorbed in the payment of a few odd debts and the purchase of a winter outfit of boots and clothing for the children. In any case, it must have been a hard struggle; but doubtless the ex-soldier and his wife would have bravely "carried on" had not a sudden stroke of misfortune destroyed the family income at a blow. Never in robust health, and none the stronger for his two-and-a-half years in the Army, the breadwinner of the family of seven is now laid aside with a severe attack of influenza, their sole available means of support being the National Health Insurance "benefit" of 10s. weekly. The wife would help if she could, but she is shortly expecting another baby, while the claims of five young children and a sick husband cannot be lightly ignored. How could we refuse to help in such a case? In a few weeks' time, we hope the invalid will be on his feet again—and the wife over her trouble—But in the meantime the family are suffering acute privation, which a grant from our "Greatest of These" Fund has helped to relieve. Great is our privilege when through its agency we are enabled to render practical assistance to an ex-soldier "down on his luck," and with no friends to lend a helping hand.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Mrs. M. K. M. (Cleckheaton), £1; M. D. P., £1; W. A. S. (Hemel Hempstead), 2s. 6d.; N. W. (Dundee), 5s.; A. B. C. (Fleetwood), 10s.; A. G. B., £30; T. H. (Hammersmith), 2s. 6d.; W. G. K. (Finchley), £1 1s.; "An Aged Widow's Mite," 2s. 6d.; "Pip" (Dover), 1s.; Mrs. R. H. (Westbury), 2s. 6d.; Mrs. A. B. (Liverpool), 10s.; E. G. T. (Southsea), 10s.; "A Wellwisher," £5; H. H. (Liverpool), 2s.; Workmen of the S.W.S. Coy. (Swansea), £1 7s.; "X.Y.Z." (Leytonstone), £1; J. W. (Rochdale), 2s.; J. P. (Leeds), 10s.; M. D. (Guildford), 3s.; E. J. F. (Southall), 3s.; Captain and Crew, s.s. *Ilmenau*, £3 17s. 6d.; A. W., 1s. 6d.; R. McD., 2s.; "Johnathan," 10s.; C. H. C. (Andover), 3s.; "A Reader of J.B." (Sparkhill), 1s.; E. M. (Highgate), 5s.; T. H. N., 10s.; F. S. (Littlehampton), £1 1s.; "Brazil Nut," £1; L. C., [illegible]; J. O. (Campden), 6d.; H. C. (Sheffield), 3d.; P. O'C. (Bermondsey), 2s.; "Hanover," 10s.; W. M. L. (Ealing), 10s.; J. C. & F. (Liverpool), 5s.; T. S., 3d.; H. K. (S. Shields), 3s. 9d.; J. P. (Elswick), 3s. 6d.; H. T. (Peckham), 7s. 6d.; "Onew," 1s.; G. G. (Gillingham), 10s.; "A Scot," 10s.; G. J. W., £3; M. K., 2s.; Electrical Staff, R.N.T.F. (Greenock), 12s.; Mrs. T. (Perth), 5s.; "M." (Folkestone), 5s.; V. G. M., 4s.; E. H., 5s.; C. H. and H. F. T., 10s.; B. E. H., 2s. 6d.; "Miss Mystery," 1s.; A. F. (Aldborough), 1s.; "In Memory of Plimsoll," 5s.; A. C. G. (Thornton Heath), 2s.; Anon. (Farnham), 2s. 6d.; "Irvine Scotty," 6d.; M. J. H. (Caerau), 2s. 6d.; H. H. W., 5s.; F. W. P. (Bognor), 2s. 6d.; "Bristol Reader," 3s.; House Party, Saunders Road (Blackburn), 8s.; R. B. (Oxford), 2s.; M. A. W., 2s. 6d.; "Seven Sympathisers" (Reading), 10s.; "Ti-hee," 2s. 6d.; W. J. N. (Portsmouth), 2s.; H. L. (Constantinople), 4s. 3d.; W. J. B. (Roos), 2s.; "Lady M.," 2s. 6d.; A. B. J., 1s.; "Babe," £3 2s.; Miss Q. G. F. (Pietermaritzburg), 10s.; "A Widow's Mite," 2s.; J. S. A., 5s.; M. N., 10s.; "Bedford," 3s.; R. D. (Lewes), 2s. 6d.; S. R. T. (W. Kensington), £2; "Engineer," £1; "Late Tommy," 2s.; N. W. (Cheshire), 1s.; A. N. (Darlington), 1s. 9d.; G. O. (Cornwall), 1s.; E. E. F. (Fulham), £1; N. S. (Pinner), 10s.; C. O. J. (Brighton), 2s.; Pte. F. A. B., 6d.; "C.," 1s.; A. G., 2s.; H. J., 2s. 6d.; "A Mill Girl," 5s.; G. W. J. (Sunderland), 2s.; "Dug Up," 5s.; M. K. (Erdington), 1s. 6d.; Collected from a Few Friends (per W. E.), £1; Anon., 2s.; "Well Wisher" (Tunbridge Wells), 5s.; "John Ruskin Band of Mercy" (Sheffield), 11s. 6d.; Mrs. H. V. (New York City), 5s.; Mrs. A. S. R. (Alberta), £1; J. S., 2s.; F. E. D. (Willesden), 5s.; "Chemical" (Widnes), 3s.; M. C. (Bicester), 6d.

Mr. W. A. Brown, the winner of the First Prize in our [illegible]th "Bullets" Competition, has kindly sent us £3.

No. 3. New Series.
January 16th. 1920.

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FIRST PRIZE.—Free Cinema Tuition for Three Months, to cost not less than £80 in cash, and in addition £20 for Pocket Money and Incidental Expenses.

SECOND PRIZE.—Ten Consolation Prizes of £2 each.

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ESSENTIAL CONDITION.—Full Face Photo (Carte or Cabinet) to be sent, with Coupon pasted on back, together with a 6d. Postal Order.

Full training at a first-class school. A chance to start work in a good production.

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£50 Every Week.

1st Prize - - -	£25
2nd " - - -	£10
3rd " - - -	£5

40 Consolation Prizes of 5s. each.

ESSENTIAL CONDITION.

The Prizes will be awarded to those who send in the *Best Sentence* (whether witty, humorous, ridiculous, clever, or otherwise), made up out of the whole of any *Four Titles of Books*, such titles to be chosen by each Competitor at will. There is a 3d. entrance fee.

EXAMPLE.

Titles chosen—

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"THROUGH DARKEST ENGLAND," by WILLIAM BOOTH.

Sentence—"The Abbot black but comely, travels with a donkey through darkest England." See The New Commonwealth for complete particulars No member of the staff of the N.C. will be allowed to compete.

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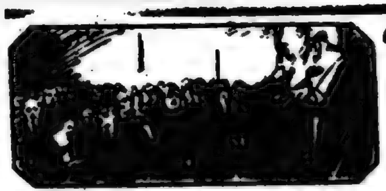

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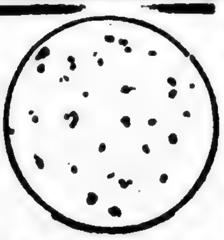

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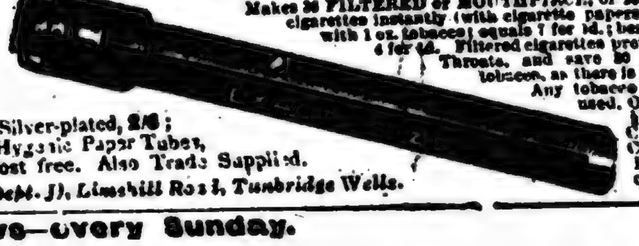

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JOHN BULL IN THE CITY.

FINANCIAL NOTES—AND ADVICE TO INVESTORS.

BY OUR CITY EDITOR.

Each enquiry must bear name and address and be accompanied by a Postal Order for One Shilling.

Congested Business.

Members of the Stock Exchange are seriously discussing means to relieve the congestion of business from which they are suffering. The Committee has again decided against the revival of fortnightly settlements, and the routine involved in carrying through every transaction to completion imposes a tremendous strain on staffs. Delays are becoming more and more frequent, but as often as not the fault is not in the Stock Exchange but in companies' offices, where it is by no means unusual to see queues of messengers waiting to lodge transfers or collect certificates. But it is easier to point out the evil than to suggest a remedy.

Home Railways.

Nothing but bad luck seems to come the way of the Home Railway market in these days. It looked like reviving some of its old popularity a week or two ago and there was a lot of good buying in anticipation of the forthcoming dividends, but the hopes of the dealers have been dashed by the attitude of the men (or a considerable section of them), with regard to the Government's wages proposals. It is certainly discouraging that when the leaders like Mr. Thomas and Mr. Cramp recommend the terms offered as fair and honourable, many men of the rank and file should continue to press impossible claims. However, in spite of a settlement being temporarily postponed, I still regard railway stocks as a desirable investment at present prices.

The Financial Times.

I find I was wrong when, in the issue of this journal of November 29th, I spoke of the *Financial Times* as having been established by the late Mr. Douglas Gordon McRae and the Bridgewater family. As a matter of fact, it was founded by Mr. Bottomley, and it was not until many months after its establishment that Mr. McRae became interested in it. At that time both he and Mr. Bottomley were associated in the printing and publishing firm of McRae, Curtice & Co., of Catherine St., Strand, and it was at a considerably later date that the *Draper's Record*, owned by the late Mr. Bridgewater and printed and published by that firm, was amalgamated with the *Financial Times* and became part of the property of the company bearing that name.

AN UNDESIRABLE INSURANCE ISSUE.

There has been a boom in the promotion of new insurance companies recently, and several of the issues have been of a highly respectable and attractive character. But, as always happens in such cases, dubious ventures come forward in the hope that an undiscriminating public will class them with their more worthy competitors, and I am afraid the Traders and General Association is of this type. The company was formed in 1907 with a subscribed capital of £3,180, and this was increased to £20,000 in 1908, and to £41,100 last September. Since then the capital has been dilated to £500,000, "in order to cope with the many offers of business which the company with its small capital was unable to accept." That is all we are told on this point in a letter from Mr. H. Muir Beddall, the managing director, to Messrs. George Clare and Co., who are now offering 430,600 shares for sale. Since September, the subscribed capital has been increased to £69,400, with 5s. or £17,350 paid up, and the preference shares have disappeared. Mr. Beddall might have thrown a little more light on this point while he was about it. He might at the same time have been more communicative on the subject of dividends. He proudly boasts that 12½ per cent. was paid for 1918, but omits to mention that the rate was 6 per cent. for 1917 (requiring the large sum of £366), that nothing whatever was paid for some years previously, and that for some time even the preference dividend was in arrears. It is a gorgeous record on which to distend the capital to half a million!

The company is a non-tariff office, and is prepared to transact various classes of insurance and re-insurance business, except life. In 1914 the premium income was only £17,000, but it had apparently risen to £64,000 in 1918, and even that was a very trumpery amount. Yet on this slender basis Messrs. George Clare and Co. have the effrontery to offer 430,600 shares, 5s. paid, at a premium of 1s. 6d., or 6s. 6d. in all! They paid 6s. 1½d., less commission, for the whole lot, and I cannot honestly say that a profit of 4½d. per share is excessive, considering the risk—but for the public to pay 6s. 6d. and incur a liability of 15s. per share on the terms of this prospectus would be rash in the extreme.

South African Land Shares.

One of the most noteworthy features of late has been the demand for South African land shares, and in this connection attention has been drawn to Balkis, Ltd.—a company which owns approximately 210,000 acres in the Transvaal and Rhodesia, together with the mineral rights over 9,000 sq. miles in the Bechuanaland Protectorate. From the particulars available it seems that the liquid assets are substantial, approximating £75,000, whilst the capital is only just over £100,000. Having regard to the fact that land in the districts in which the company is interested is changing hands at prices up to £2 per acre, and the purely nominal valuation of something like 1½d. per acre at which the propert; stand in the accounts of the Company, the possibility of an early appreciation in the price of the shares is obvious.

South American Stores.

The directors have taken a somewhat unusual step in announcing that they have been approached by Harrods (Buenos Aires), with a view to a possible amalgamation. The negotiations were not sufficiently advanced to allow a very definite statement being made, but all the same I think the directors were right in disclosing the fact. Rumours of such impending deals nearly always leak out, and in any case persons with inside knowledge are placed at an advantage as compared with the ordinary shareholders.

Big Barkers.

The purchase of Derry and Toms' business by John Barker and Co., Ltd., places the combination high up the list of big stores. Pontings was acquired some years ago, and Barkers now own a solid block of shops with, it is claimed, the longest frontage in the world. That does not sound so impressive here as it would in America, but all the same this latest combine is of exceptional interest.

Six Per Cents.

It is rather significant that while several Colonial loans issued recently on a 6 per cent. basis have gone to a premium, such things as the New South Wales 5½ per cents. have fallen to a substantial discount. Evidently the public prefer even rates of interest, but the next big Government loan will have to be on very onerous terms, unless Premium Bonds are adopted.

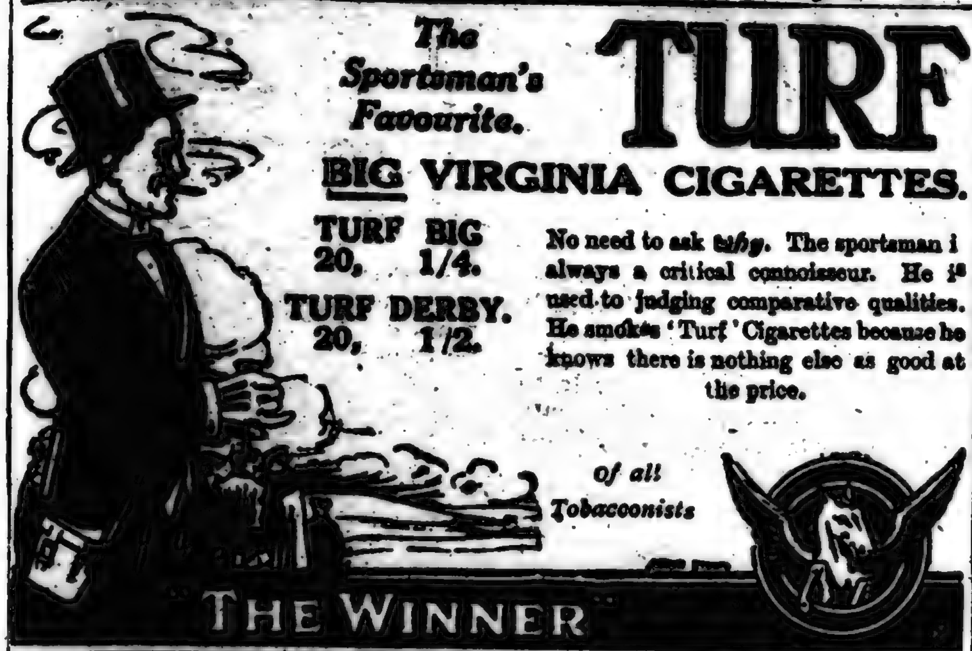
OUR FINANCIAL LETTER BAG.

EDITORIAL REPLIES.

(All enquiries must be accompanied by a postal order for 1s., and bear the full name and address of correspondent as evidence of good faith.)

SCHOOL (Gosforth).—All the companies you mention are sound with the exception of *Oil Trusts*, which I do not favour. People who tell you what shares are likely to rise in the next six months are almost invariably wrong.——MEX. EAGLE (Burton).—It is very doubtful whether you will ever get another chance as good as the one you threw away. *Kern Rivers*, *Lobitos*, and *Trinidad Leaseholds* have good prospects.——W. P. (Birkenhead).—*Surplus Motor Association*: I have no particulars about the company, and it has only an office at the address mentioned—no show rooms. My only advice is not to buy a car in a poke.——C. W. (Oxford).—Put your money into *War Savings Certificates* for the present. I do not know a good gamble at the moment; there may be better opportunities later.——H. H. B. (Faversham).—*Crude Oil Engines*: I do not like the look of it, and consider it far too risky except as a gamble with a bit of spare cash. My advice would be to leave it alone.——R. A. F. (Bournemouth).—*Owen Magnetic*: Have nothing to do with it. Fifteen years ago Edison swore by all his gods that he had discovered the secret, but nothing came of it, and so far as I know there has been no substantial progress since.——C. T. D. (Blackburn).—If you have no banking account leave the *French Premium Bonds* alone, because you would have endless trouble about exchanges and interest payments. Write to the Secretary of the Victory Bond Club, 26, King Street, St. James's, S.W.1. for particulars of its scheme.——T. G. T. (Reading).—*Direct Fish Supplies*: It is an excellent scheme, and I wish it the greatest possible success.——R. F. (Shortlands).—*British Central Africa*: These shares have been a favourite gamble from time to time for a good many years past. The prospects are not now so favourable, as money for development is required for more urgent purposes, but I should not be inclined to sell out at a heavy loss.——REDNAL (Letchworth).—*Port of London*: The stock is good, and interest absolutely safe; you would not get any material benefit by exchanging. Hold on to your *National Provincial Bank* shares; it is not wise as a rule to replace anything really safe with something speculative.——H. F. (Nottingham).—*Algerian Oilfields* have fair gambling prospects, and I do not like to advise you to cut a heavy loss; better wait a little, anyhow. *Russian Corporation* ought to be kept if you can hang on. The country will settle down sooner or later, and then there will be a very rapid recovery.——ST. MUNGO (Glasgow).—*Cyprus Oil Trust*: The shares are a good sporting purchase at present price.——H. M. H. (Enniscorthy).—*Alliance Film*: The prospects are good, and I think the shares should be held. *Abdulla Tobacco* is not likely to be so good in the future as it has been in the past few years. *Armstrong Whitworth* Preference shares and debentures are perfectly sound investments.——MRS. H. S. (Kendal).—*Ventibeta*: Like all patents, this venture must be regarded as speculative. I have not seen a price for the Preference recently.——G. H. T. (Derby).—*Bristol Corpn.*: The price of the 3 per cent. is about 58, and of the 3½ per cent. about 66. They are quite safe, and I doubt if there would be much advantage in exchanging.——T. A. (Lichfield).—*Upper Burmah Oil*: The company disappeared some years ago, and I am afraid the shares are practically worthless.——T. C. (Chorley).—*Cyprus Oil Trust*: The present price is about 4s.0d., and the company has fair prospects.——*Summit Motor*: Do not touch the shares; they are no good.

(A considerable number of replies are held over for lack of space, but every endeavour is being made to answer them promptly by post.)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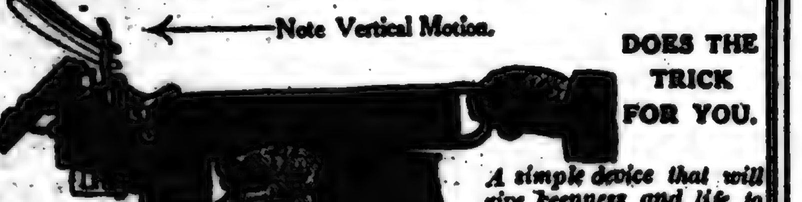
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"John Bull's" Letter Bag.

[The EDITOR replies to, and chats with, some of his numerous correspondents.]

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MAJOR W. H. V. (Manchester).—Short of definite incitement to violence, we would not deny free speech even to Sinn Feiners. Pent gas is a frequent cause of explosion.

F. P. (Cardiff).—Your strictures upon the Coalition Ministry may be to a great extent justified, but don't be too sure that the formation of a Labour Government would be a short cut to the Millennium. *There are others.*

"SORROWING MOTHER" (Glasgow).—Our view, as you know, is that the fullest possible facilities should be afforded for bereaved relatives to visit the hallowed graves of our deathless heroes.

"ESSEX MAN" (Stepney).—It is scandalous that for trade purposes Jonas of Sheffield should still employ the title of which he has been formally deprived by the King.

"IRISHMAN" (Acton).—So you fear Ireland may become "a second Heligoland." It might if we were fools enough to cede it to a hostile Power.

"GRATEFUL READER." (Wandsworth Common, S.W.).—Unless the cost of living can be brought down, there will have to be an all-round increase in civil pension rates.

"READER" (Cologne) tells us we have a "double" in Cologne, in the shape of a German policeman. A lucky Hun, to have some redeeming features!

P. W. H. (Bishops Waltham).—"Cannot something be done to prevent vessels being sold to the damned foreigners?" Yes: but in return something might be done to prevent our buying vessels from the—er—foreigners you mention.

"LEX" (Law Courts).—"I unlocked my drawer and took out my Victory Bond, now worth about £80, and with this I have applied for 6 of the French Premium Bonds: no more 'Chamberlain Banbury Cakes for me!" It is shameful that it should be necessary, and more profitable, to invest money abroad.

G. K. (Brecon).—Our definition of an educated man is, one who has had the best that he is capable of educed or developed by study, labour, or experience.

J. R. (Pitsea).—For the Disposal Board to offer ex-soldiers taking up agriculture sets of tools from its enormous stocks would be so sensible a proceeding that no officials could be expected to entertain the idea.

H. W. H. (Edinburgh).—"Why, oh why, have you become so sloppy and kow-tow so much to Royalty?" We do not kow-tow to Royalty, which in this country is entitled to the respect due to its position and the praise due to its service.

"RLABIA" (Brixton).—You forget that the Government command the time of the House. There is at present no chance of a private M.P. being able to get through a Divorce Law Amendment Bill "on his own."

J. H. V. (Southsea).—It is true that the Government are "encouraging the British merchant to trade with Germany." A lot of British merchants have not, however, needed much encouragement.

S. H. (London, S.W.).—Thanks for suggested "Candid Communication" to a certain private detective, although on the whole we prefer to do our own "sassing."

R. L. (Boston).—If you cannot buy a public house, start a laundry.

"BARYTES" (Manchester).—We have no investments which give us special interest in "pressed sheet-steel coffins." All our investments are in live propositions.

CPL. A. H. (Avonmouth).—There are some very plundersome barbers in London. You should notice or ask the price of each operation thrust upon you.

P. W. O. (Welshpool).—Thanks for selection of riddles, which will assist us to shine in company.

W. A. R. (Barnes).—The Profiteering Committee turned down your complaint. If we do the same it is simply from lack of space.

C. F. S. (Glasgow).—Glad to hear you speak so well of the Pope. In the North of Ireland, we gather, he is thought less highly of.

A. J. (Bristol).—A magistrate's sympathy, however movingly expressed, doesn't cut much ice when he proceeds to grant an Order to turn a wounded ex-soldier out of his house. Better to say nowt than play the crocodile.

"CONSTANT READER" (Brighton).—Very good of you to tell us that Dr. Arbuthnot wrote a satire called "John Bull" in the reign of Queen Anne. But, as we knew all about it, the news is as dead as the lady.

A. L. (Seven Kings).—The Christmas card, with "greeting" label in corner, and under that "American Y.M.C.A.," we shouldn't call a swindle, as the American Y.M.C.A. probably sold up all their surplus.

"CHARLEY" (East Ham).—"Please, sir, will you tell me what made that big hole in the sun—Is it rats?" Rats.

MRS. G. R. S. (Woodford Green).—Don't see how you could represent the Housing Scheme successfully at a fancy dress ball without offending the proprieties and catching a severe cold. You might as well go as a vacuum.

P. A. B. (Walworth).—Let's have the name of the young women's club which girls who do not regularly attend church are not allowed to join.

J. E. B. (Chalk Farm).—Thanks for "brief summary of yourself." By next post kindly forward short epitome of the missus.

"HACKNEY BOY" (Millbank Hospital).—Your thoughtful letter *re* soldiers' pensions was most welcome. Our warmest regards to all the boys.

T. D. (Stockport).—The "party that rescued 12 survivors of the *Hampshire*" make a very modest request when they wish the fact recorded on their parchment certificates of discharge—especially as that was promised by the O.C.

H. M. S. (Aberdour).—"I thought my wee yarn might raise a grin." You thocht richt, mon.

S. A. H. (Forbes Green).—"Why is JOHN BULL like a good Xmas pudding? Because 'J.B.' does all things well, if ever any man did; His mixture is the best we know, His spicy currants ne'er run low, He never lacks aplomb and oh, He's always sweetly candid." Thanks. We will help ourselves to the brandy sauce.

MISS C. S. (Commercial Road, E.).—If not actually "silent," the letter "l" in "Holborn" is of an extremely quiet disposition.

"LONG READER" (London, S.W.).—So you consider our articles "worthy of note." We should be sick if you thought otherwise.

I. C. L. (Hull), who was the subject of our recent par. "A Good Man Hipped," writes to say that he has found congenial employment which he "owes to us." We are as proud as Lucifer.

"RECORD" (South Woodford).—Your local police certainly seem a bit sleepy. Possibly they are heavy eaters.

H. K. W. (Warrington).—2s. 6d. commission charged by Post Office on a 5s. money order to America is as stiff as a ramrod.

"A CONSTANT READER" (Hammersmith).—"I understand the manager is a man who does what he likes with the girls." But if he does what they don't like, it's odds he gets his face slapped.

W. K. (Stoke).—"Bravo, results of your efforts in the interests of Old Age Pensioners!" We are glad to have done our share.

G. L. (Bridgnorth).—"I hope, sir, you will renew your youth, like the eagle's." Suppose we rise from our ashes, like the phœnix—how will that do?

J. McC. (Foots Cray).—The jewelled "dog collar" over which you shed such scalding tears was not, as you imagine, for a pampered poodle collar, but a lady's article of adornment so named.

"PLEASE HELP ME!"—"Should a wife tell the firm when she knows her husband is systematically robbing them?" Not before warning her husband to forsake his evil courses and make restitution.

D. M. (Catford).—The Carpentier-Beckett fight was no doubt advertised as the leading attraction, not as the sole contents of the cinema programme. So now you can stop "wondering."

"BACKVELDTER" (Bulawayo).—Thanks for breezy letter, perused with much interest. Wish you were at hand for a friendly chat.

A. R. M. (Glantyre).—What is needed is right of entry into pit workings, without warning, of Cruelty to Animal Inspectors.

"SUNDAY" (Holloway).—"The young men of the Mormon church are clean young men." It was written lang syne that while there's life there's soap.

H. W. K. (Twickenham).—Agreed that to watch a big boxing contest is often to "witness a fiasco." Did you notice "Smiler" Hale's suggestion that there should be 30 secs. for the count out?

H. B. (Stamford Hill).—Afraid cannot undertake to search the files of other newspapers for you. Thanks all the same for your friendly letter.

"DEVONIAN" (Southsea).—"The letters of commendation you receive are doubtless innumerable." True for you, old son; they arrive at the rate of umpteen a minute.

J. K. S. (Halifax).—Your praise of the scheme for the employment of ex-Service men quite justified, but we must draw the line at twenty 4-line stanzas of verse on the subject.

LT. J. A. D. (Stocksfield).—"It is deplorable that after 5 years of war such a state of affairs should exist." But that is precisely why.

A. C. (Broadstairs).—Sorry we do not know of any institution which would provide funds to enable your sister in Canada to leave her brutal husband.

"DEMOBBED" (Leven).—The person who advertised for a cook-general, stating at the same time "no W.A.A.C. need apply," probably realises that the job is not worthy to be filled by one of those gallant girls.

A. G. C.—"Wherever I be, as you can see, I always have good company; The JOHN BULL book and JOHN BULL pen, I always find them genuine." Many say the same, but not so nicely. Take a small bun.

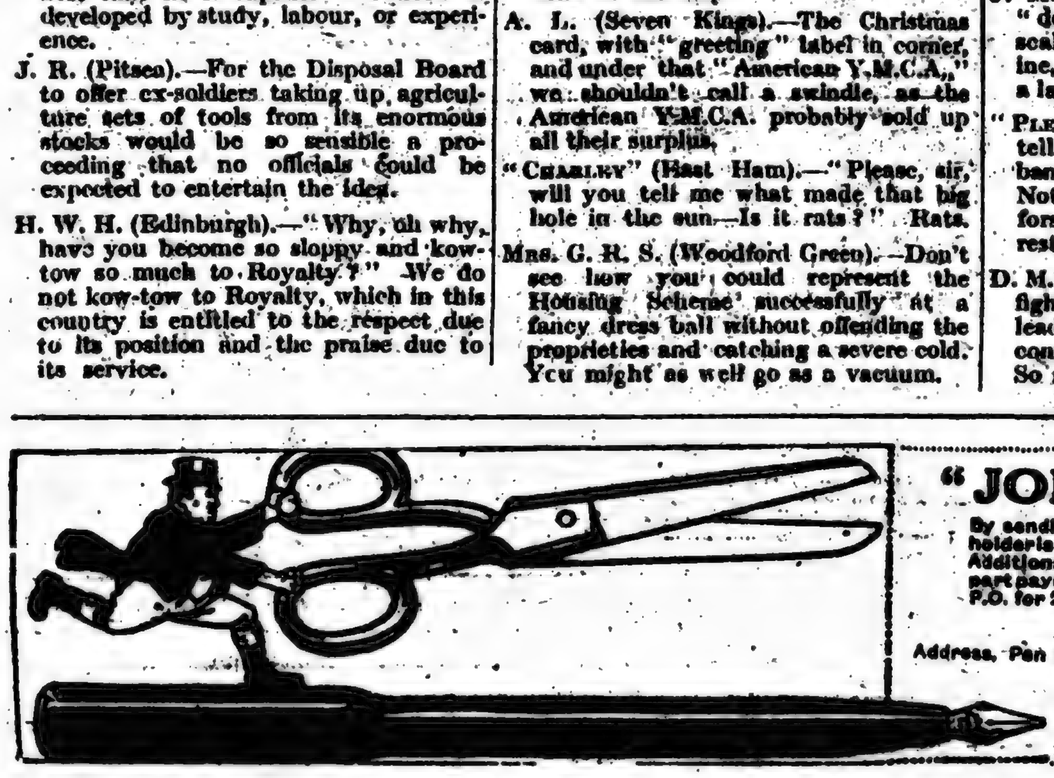
H. G. B. P. (Edinburgh).—The sentiments we express with respect to America are almost loving compared with those published in the American press towards this country. If you read some of the popular Yankee papers, you would be astonished at our moderation.

"PASSER-BY" (Port Glasgow).—Certainly very dangerous for eight or nine hundred men to squeeze through a half-opened gate, although we should have imagined their combined strength might have forced a wider passage.

E. E. J. (Bombay).—"I have no wish to waste your time with piffle." A thousand thanks. Four pages of other stuff duly to hand.

MR. WILLIAM H. COX (The Gardens, Courtlands, Lympstone), the winner of our recent £1,000 "Bullets" prize, tells us that the successful effort was entirely his own, that he is a working gardener, with wife and little girl, and had not spent more than £2 altogether in "Bullets" entrance fees in his life, in return for which he had already won two small prizes. Congratulations on his handsome further dividend.

(Continued on page 23.)



CUT IT OUT:

"JOHN BULL" Pen Coupon. Value 2d.

By sending this Coupon with P.O. for 3/3, and 1½d. stamps for postage, the holder is entitled to receive a "John Bull" Gold Nibbed Fountain Pen, STANDARD MODEL. Additional Coupons up to 6 from "John Bull" from this date may be saved and used in part payment, each counting as 2d. off the price. Thus, you may send 7 coupons and P.O. for 2/3 only, and 1½d. stamps for postage.

DE LUXE MODEL, 1/3 Extra.

Address, Pen Dept., JOHN BULL, Long Acre, London, W.C.2. (Jan. 17th, 1920.)

P.O.s should be made payable to John Bull, Ltd., and crossed & Co.

N.B.—State whether you prefer a Fine, Medium, or Broad Nib.

Letter Bag—Continued.

W. A. (Durham).—Thanks for humorous "advertisement," but be careful or you will hurt your funnybone.

T. R. J. (Harlesden).—The rent of the rooms at Shepherd's Bush were raised from 9s. 6d. to 14s., to a new tenant. Yes, but that is only a modest "make" compared with other unblushing robbery.

W. E. L. (Bayswater) says that for two days, (24th and 25th Dec.) temporary postal work, ex-Service men, received only 9d. an hour and 1s. for 4 hours on Christmas Day.

G. B. (Bilston).—So you think we are inclined to "strain at a gnat and swallow a camel." Kindly drop a postcard next time you catch us at it.

"Rhymester" (Ealing).—Quite a bright idea to translate our leading articles into poetry. Perhaps when prices drop a bit we may have copies framed.

W. W. W. (Hitcham).—Well, has Lord Astor found a cottage for you, to shelter your wife and young family? We should be interested to know whether his lordship is more successful in this respect than Dr. Addison.

"Waac."—We are always prepared to deal with the grievances of our women soldiers, but we rather shy at your proposal that we should "embrace all the members of the women's army, including the land girls and so on." You must remember that Christmas is now over.

"Obedient Servant" (King's Cross).—We are extremely obliged by the thrilling tale of your encounter with Bolsheviks in Leicester Square. What time was it?

Mrs. G. E. West (Leicester).—There is one way in which we may escape the threatened "Hun revenge by air," and that is by sedulously avoiding German barbers.

F. J. T. (Eccles).—"I have often thought I would like to say a few words on the subject of Housing." Lots of other people have thought the same, and many have said those few words. Last time we heard them, the air went blue for miles.

"Lancet" (Balham).—"Some year ago I saw a lady about 6 ft. high who told me she was one of quadruplets, the other three all being boys who grew up strong and 6 ft. high." What the Doctor says, he says.

E. E. (Dukinfield).—No doubt your landlord "ought to be exposed," but unless you furnish evidence of your assertions we must decline the job.

E. S. (Kingstown).—Sorry you've been caught by the coupon trick worked by the Universal Stores, Ltd., 21, Cannon Street, Manchester. We have frequently exposed it in the past.

H. E. R. (Winchelsea).—We have had brought to our notice dozens of cases of the wanton destruction of Army huts by the authorities, whereas good prices from such persons as yourself could have been obtained for them.

T. D. (Lincoln).—"Please insert the enclosed without fail, and you are at liberty to make whatever use you care to do with the same." The gracious permission in your second sentence relieves us of the burden imposed by the first.

W. E. C. (Bexley).—The *Daily Mail* said Dempsey was not surprised by the result of the Beckett *v.* Carpentier fight. The *Daily Chronicle* said he was. There was no doubt about Beckett's surprise, however.

G. A. A. (Sheffield).—You offer us "millions of pounds' worth of good advice," for which we are to send "what we like, a good cheque." We are just ninepence short of a million in petty cash, and to send you anything less than the full sum would be gross profiteering at your expense.

J. C. (London).—Your father allows you £1 a week; "can you get more?" Shouldn't worry the old gentleman, or he might stop the quid.

J. E. R. (Brighton).—At popular prices your proposed sketch, "Ali Baba and the Forty Quartermasters," should be assured of a successful run.

Mrs. K. (Manchester).—Afraid quite impossible to find you a house. Applications already received would use up several nice-sized towns.

F. D. (Chichester).—It is very difficult to challenge the decision when Magistrates, having heard all the evidence, dismiss a case.

A. J. R. (Gosport).—No doubt Mr. Hogan, of the Barnet Board of Guardians, is right about present beer, "There is not a fight in a whole barrel."

E. J. H. (Kingstown).—"An elevating response," says the *Leinster Leader*, "is hopefully anticipated commensurate with the compassionate object of this enervating Festive re-union." Some reporter that. Also some sub-editor.

E. C. (Manitoba).—Sorry you object to the phrase "shrieks of silence." Other readers, on the contrary, were quite taken with it.

H. V. K. (London, N.W.).—It is the British frequenter of hotels and restaurants who is mainly responsible for the way the foreign waiter is everywhere cunningly creeping back into his old employment, while British waiters appeal in vain for work.

K. S. (Aberdare).—"I have often thought of writing you respecting your beautiful articles." And now you have done it. Sweet of you.

R. A. (Hull).—"My daughter, just over 13, worked 70 hours Christmas week serving in a tobacconist's and confectioner's. They paid her 2s. wages." As shameless an imposition as we have ever heard of, and a gross infringement of the Shop Hours Act.

T. C. (Sheffield).—"I say it's time we had a Business Government, then we should be governed on business lines." The same idea has occurred to us once or twice.

H. H. (Peterborough).—Whatever we can usefully do to help the old police pensioners we shall be glad to do.

"Soldier" (Topsham).—"And as the bells rang in the year to come, We gave this solemn vow: Britain, our home, our all—if strike we must—We strike alone for thee." The sentiment is as beautiful as the poetry is unlovely.

H. H. (Whittlesford).—"It is a well-known fact that the Church of England and Nonconformists combined together to defeat the Premium Bonds." It is like those two bodies to combine to the detriment of persons who belong to neither, but are merely sensible.

"Old Friend."—Why should we let an anonymous inquirer into the secret of the Prime Minister's income?

(Many replies are unavoidably held over.)

CAN YOU DRIVE A MOTOR CAR?

An Indispensable Work for Every Owner, Driver or Chauffeur

The Book of the Motor-Car is the first really comprehensive work on motor-cars, motor-cycles, and cycle-cars ever published.

DRIVING AND REPAIRS.

The Book is full of invaluable information on all problems of driving and repairing a car, instructions being given for all possible difficulties in language that can be understood by the most unmechanical mind. The following are a few of the subjects dealt with:—

Cylinders, valves of all kinds, different types of engines, carburetters, ignition, silencers, gears and clutches, radiators, cooling systems, brakes, lubrication, lighting systems, artillery and wire wheels, tyres, fuels and how to use them, tools, and repair appliances, etc., etc.

CYCLE-CARS AND MOTOR-CYCLES

The work pays full attention to motor-cycles and cycle-cars, full details and instruction being given for all those points wherein they must be treated differently from the more powerful motor-car. In these and all other respects the Book of the Motor-car is in line with the very latest discoveries in motor engineering. It is profusely illustrated with full-page plates, diagrams and photographs, as well as a series of sectional movable models in colour showing in detail the actual working parts of a car.

FREE BOOKLET

To the Caxton Publishing Co., Ltd.,
141, Surrey Street, Strand, London, W.C.2.

Please send me, free of charge, Illustrated Booklet describing "The Book of the Motor-Car."

Name

(Send this form or a postcard.)

Address

CAN MUSIC BE SELF-TAUGHT?

Many readers must have wished they could play some musical instrument, but have been deterred from learning by the expense and inconvenience of taking lessons from a music master.

The publication of the Musical Educator will come as a boon, for it contains in compact and interesting form a complete musical education. It is written by the greatest authorities, including:—

PADEREWSKI.—"The Best Way to Study the Piano."

MARK HAMBOURG.—"The Piano and How to Play It."

CARUSO.—"The Cultivation of the Voice."

CLARA BUTT.—"How to Sing a Song."

MADAME MARCHESI.—"The Teaching of Singing."

JOHN DUNN.—"On Playing the Violin."

SIR F. H. COWEN.—"The Art of Conducting."

EDWIN H. LEMARE.—"The Art of Organ Playing."

Every branch of Musical Culture is dealt with by an expert.

Course of Voice Training, Singing and Solfeggio. Course on the Pianoforte. Course on the Violin. Course on Harmonium and American Organ. Course on the Organ. Lessons on Scientific Basis of Music. Rudiments of Music. Harmony and Counterpoint. Canon and Fugue. Musical Forms, Musical Analysis and Composition, Dictionary of Musical Terms, Articles on the Instruments used in Orchestras and in Military Bands. Children's Music and Musical Drill. Choir Training and Conducting. Congregational Music. Musical Degrees and Education.

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You have read history at school and since, but it was dead history. You have followed reports of international diplomacy, but they were remote, incomprehensible to anyone but the professed student of politics. In the "Caxton History of the Great War" you are supplied with all the knowledge of a diplomat, and it reads like a novel, but more absorbing than any fiction ever conceived by the mind of man. In the "Caxton History" the strategic conception behind every campaign, and every move in that campaign, becomes comprehensible. Battles that, even if you were engaged in them, were a blind series of movements, having no visible object, are shown in a new light. For the first time the military genius which determined them is made comprehensible.

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Please send me, free of charge, detailed Illustrated Booklet of "The Caxton History of the Great War."

Name

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WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT BUSINESS?

To the thoughtless, the easy-going, or the very young man this question may, at first glance, seem an insult.

Such a one would answer in an off-handed sort of way: "Why, I am in Business. I am a Business man. I know all about Business, or I ought to do so."

Ay, there's the rub! He ought to do. But does he?

Let us put the same question to you.

What do you know about Advertising, Accountancy, Auditing, Agreements, Banking, County Court Procedure, Commercial Law, Company Law, Law of Contract, Debt Collection, Office Organisation, Insurance, Landlord and Tenant, Bankruptcy, How to Open a Business, How to Extend a Business, etc., etc.

To thoroughly understand these and other important business subjects you must have the Business Encyclopædia.

It contains hundreds of business articles written by the most successful business men of the day. Among these are: Sir Woodman Burbidge (Managing Director, Harrods Stores), A. W. Gamage, John Lawrie (Managing Director, William Whiteley, Ltd.), Sir Joseph Lyons, H. G. Selfridge, and many others.

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"We strongly advise all commercial men to purchase the work. It is THE work par excellence for every business man to possess."

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Please send me, free of charge, a copy of the book describing the "Business Encyclopædia."

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(Send this form or a postcard.)

Address

The EVENING TELEGRAM—the only Sunday evening paper.

'BULLETS' £250 1ST PRIZE

'BULLETS' 2ND PRIZE £20

'BULLETS' 3RD PRIZE £10

10 PRIZES OF £5 — 10 PRIZES OF £2 : 10 — 25 PRIZES OF 10s. — 200 PRIZES OF 5s. — 1,000 PRIZES OF 2s. 6d. — 3,000 "TARGET" PRIZES.

☞ **Please note that next week "Bullets" first Prize will be increased to £1,000.**

HOW TO MAKE "BULLETS."

First choose any of the Thirty-two examples given below. Then give **TWO, THREE** or **FOUR** words having some bearing on the example chosen. Any **ONE** of the words selected must begin with any letter in the example chosen. The other words selected can begin with any letters in the alphabet. These examples will guide you: Example:—ALWAYS BUSY. Bullet:—BRITISH WORKMEN SHOULD BE. Example:—JUSTICE. Bullet:—PAUPER SELDOM GETS. Competitors may send in two BULLETS for sixpence. If more coupons are used, an entry fee at the rate of 6d for each coupon must be sent. Result of this Competition will be found in our issue dated Feb. 7th.

LIST OF EXAMPLES FOR "BULLETS" COMPETITION No. 361.

BOTTOMLEY'S PROPHECY
LOOKING AFTER TOMMY
PANTOMIME JOKES
FINDING THE LADY
PLAYING WRONG GAME
PROVING HER WORTH
DOUBTFUL COMPLIMENT
KEEPING HIS PROMISE
JUST FANCY
WISH I COULD
MY LUCK
CAN'T WORK
WHAT SHE SAID
KNOWING CARD
WHAT'S THE MATTER
ON THE CARPET
MINDING THE BABY
UNPLEASANT
HARD HIT
TRUSTING WIFE
OUT OF PLACE
FATHER LIKES
GOING TO POT
LUCKY DOG
IN THE DARK
WHEN PUT OUT
JUSTICE
WITHOUT A RIVAL
NOT SO DUSTY
INVITING TROUBLE
IN THE RING
ALWAYS BUSY

No.____ Closing Date, Thursday, January 22nd.
Example____
Bullet
Example____
Bullet
(361) P.O. No.____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page.
If 1 coupon is used P.O. for 6d. must be sent.
Signed____
Address____

☞ IF UNABLE TO SECURE EXTRA COUPONS YOU CAN WRITE YOUR "BULLETS" ON PLAIN PAPER.

No.____ Closing Date, Thursday, January 22nd.
Example____
Bullet
Example____
Bullet
(361) P.O. No.____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page.
If 2 coupons are used P.O. for 1/- must be sent.
Signed____
Address____

ENVELOPES SHOULD BE MARKED "BULLETS" No 361. "JOHN BULL," LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.2

No.____ Closing Date, Thursday, January 22nd.
Example____
Bullet
Example____
Bullet
(361) P.O. No.____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page.
If 3 coupons are used P.O. for 1/6 must be sent.
Signed____
Address____

No.____ Closing Date, Thursday, January 22nd.
Example____
Bullet
Example____
Bullet
(361) P.O. No.____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page.
If 4 coupons are used P.O. for 2s. must be sent.
Signed____
Address____

Selection of Examples for "Bullets" Competition No. 362.

BRITISH WORKERS—UP TO SCRATCH—GERMAN DODGES—MAKING FOR HOME—NO GOOD—THE NEXT WAR—BETTER HALF—THE RED FLAG—STRONG MAN—HARD AT WORK—DANGER SIGNAL—MATTER OF MOMENT—LABOUR'S DAY—BAD FOR US—TRADE WAR—GOOD FOR NOTHING—NOT THIS YEAR—WASTING AWAY—LOOKING FOR FLAT—ALWAYS WRONG.

These examples can be made use of on the coupons above, and must reach us on or before **THURSDAY, Feb. 5th.** All coupons so used **MUST** be clearly marked with the number 362 in the top left-hand corner, and envelopes containing these coupons must be addressed "Bullets" No. 362, "John Bull," Long Acre, London, W.C.2. Such coupons must not contain any of the Thirty-two examples for Competition 361.

List of 10s. Prizewinners in "Bullets" Competition 358 will be published in next week's "Competitors' Journal." Complete List of all Cash and Other Prizewinners can be seen at the Offices of "John Bull."

Result of 358th 'Bullets' Competition

FIRST PRIZE OF £500:

Mr. H. C. MORSE,
15, Manor Rd., Salisbury.

Example:—IDLE FELLOW.
Bullet:—WIPES MOUTH—NOT BROW.

SECOND PRIZE OF £20:

Mr. WILLIAM HERRETT,
16, Castle View, Farnham, Surrey.

Example:—A BUSY MAN.
Bullet:—SCIENTIST IN NEXT WAR.

THIRD PRIZE OF £10:

Mr. W. O'REILLY,
14, Brocklebank Rd., Wandsworth, S.W.

Example:—MY NEW YEAR WISH.
Bullet:—HATCHET BURIED, PICK RAISED.

10 PRIZES OF £5 EACH:

MR. H. THOMPSON, 11, Southcot Place, Bath: HARD TO FIND—THE SCABBARD FOR SWORD.
MR. P. J. HIBBERD, 107, West End Lane, N.W.: IMPROVES WITH KEEPING—SOME WAITRESSES IMAGINE APPETITE.
MR. J. METCALFE, 120, Jessie Rd., Southsea: UP TO US—ENTERING TRADE WAR NEXT.
MR. T. BRIERLEY, 23, Park Rd., Leek, Staffs.: TRYING TIMES—WHEN WRONG "BENCH'S" IDLE.
MR. J. E. BURTON, Albury Rd., Guildford: NOT MARRIED—THEY "WEAR THE BEST."
MR. C. EGERTY, 29, Royston Ave., Wallasey: UP TO US—WHICH ISLAND SHALL RULE.
MR. H. DOWNING 46, Anselm Rd., Fulham, S.W.: MY NEW YEAR WISH—MAKE TELEPHONE "LIVE WIRE."
MR. W. G. GALWAY, Donaghadee, co. Down: MOTHERS' MEETING—"MASTERS" DISCUSSING "THE MEN."
MR. G. W. LEWINGTON 76, St. Mary's Rd., Southampton: MORE OR LESS—FLAPPERS WORK "LIKE NIGGERS."
MR. W. BODDY 41, Macoma Rd., Plumstead, S.E.: HARD TO FIND—MONEY—EXCEPT FOR WAR.

10 PRIZES OF £2 10s. EACH:

MR. G. SEARS, 157, Cambridge Rd., Smethwick: FILLING THE STOCKING—SOMETHING THAT CONFERENCE FORGOT.
MR. J. A. ROBERTS. 17, Kilburn Priory, N.W.: AFTER THE FIGHT—WIFE RETURNS WITH BARGAIN.
MISS M. NICOLL 1, Park Terr., Maybole, Scotland: MORE OR LESS—LABOUR'S SHORTENING MASTERS' DAYS.
MR. W. G. HOLLOWELL, 2, Tugela Villas, Danbury, Essex: AFTER A FEW—FIGHTS, BOXER RIVALLING MILLIONAIRE.
GNR. T. ROYLE, Royal Artillery Band, Woolwich: WORLD'S CHAMPION—AT MEETING DEPUTATIONS—PREMIER.
MR. F. DE GREY, 134, Brondesbury Rd., Kilburn: FINISHING TOUCH—TO PRINCE'S ORATORY—MODESTY.
MR. G. MACGREGOR, 1,229, Govan Rd., South Govan, Glasgow: AFTER THE FIGHT—BRITAIN USUALLY FORGETS STAKES.
MR. EATON, Woodlands Cotts., Old Kent Rd.: GOOD ADVICE—WORK, AND LET WORK.
MESSRS. BUTLER BROS., 40, Flower Market, Covent Garden, W.C.: GERMAN PLOTS—TAME WITHOUT "CHIEF ACTOR."
MRS. A. SHAW, 25, Vineyard Rd., Newport, Salop: KEY TO BUSINESS—GERMANY—OTHER'S ON RUSSIA.

BULLETS RULES. 1. The First Prize will be awarded for what, in the opinion of the Judges, in consultation with the Editor, is the best "Bullet" received, and the other prizes in order of merit, the test being cleverness, aptness and originality. The right to divide a prize or prizes among two or more competitors is reserved.

2. Bullets must be plainly written on one of the coupons, and only two attempts may be written on each coupon.

3. All four coupons may be used, but each coupon must be accompanied by a postal order for 6d. made payable to JOHN BULL and crossed ________ and Co. Competitors must write their names and addresses and the date of sending the order on the back of the postal order, the number of which must be duly noted on each coupon submitted. Competitors sending more than one coupon may enclose one postal order for the full amount covering the number of their coupons. Coupons must not be defaced in any manner.

4. All coupons arriving too late to be judged with absolute thoroughness will be duly returned to their respective senders.

5. The Editor undertakes that every Bullet received shall have careful consideration by a competent staff of qualified judges.

6. The Editor's decision on any matter of dispute arising in connection with this competition must be accepted as final and legally binding in all respects, and acceptance of this rule is an express condition of entry.

THE
JOHN BULL GREAT FREE FIRE INSURANCE

COVERING ALL RISKS BY FIRE TO HOME, LIFE & LIMB

UNDER this most unique FREE INSURANCE OFFER anyone above the age of 16 can be insured irrespective of sex. The premium charged by any Fire and Accident Insurance Company to secure similar benefits would certainly exceed 5s. per annum. We give it to you absolutely free.

We have made our insurance as simple and comprehensive as possible, and shall not bother about any "legal representative" or "next of kin." Claims will be paid to the registered reader, who must personally sign the coupon, or to the person nominated thereon, and to no one else.

A separate coupon must be filled up in respect to each person to be insured.

This offer applies only to persons residing in, and property situated in, England, Scotland, and Wales.

The full conditions governing this scheme will be published in the first issue of each month.

WHAT WE WILL PAY:

For Damage to contents of Home by Fire up to	£200
In case of Death directly due to Fire at Registered Reader's home	£200
For the Loss of Two Limbs or Both Eyes, or One Limb and One Eye	£200
For the Loss of One Limb or One Eye ..	£100
Medical Fees for Injuries not proving fatal but incapacitating the injured person from following his, or her, employment, up to ..	£10
In the event of a Temporary Total Disablement up to 13 weeks ..	£1 per week

ORDER FORM

TO BE RETAINED BY NEWSAGENT.

To ....
Newsagent.
....
Please deliver "JOHN BULL" to me regularly until further notice.
Signed ....
Address ....
....
Jan. 17, 1920.

You must also fill in the Registration Form which will be found next to this, and post it to John Bull Insurance Dept., [illegible] Long Acre, London, W.C.2, where your name and the name of your nominee will be duly registered.

REGISTRATION FORM

Which must be posted to—
JOHN BULL INSURANCE DEPT., Long Acre, W.C.2.

This is to notify that I have this day placed an order for the regular weekly supply of JOHN BULL with
....Newsagent, of
....
and desire you to register me as a regular subscriber under the terms of your Insurance Scheme.

In the event of my being injured or killed, or of my home or its contents being damaged, I hereby nominate to receive any payment due under this insurance, first myself, or in the event of my death:—

Name of Nominee ....
Address ....
Signature of Insured (Mr., Mrs., or Miss) ....
Home Address ....
Jan. 17, 1920.

To remain qualified for the benefits, readers must continue to have "John Bull" regularly supplied to them.

Enclose 1½d. stamp if an acknowledgment of receipt of Registration Form is required.

OUR BIG WEEKLY PRIZE.

Every week £250 MUST BE WON in our new Football Competition.

£250 MUST BE WON!

FOR TEN WINNING TEAMS
OR NEXT LARGEST NUMBER OF WINNING TEAMS.

£4,550 has already been won this season. Have YOU won a prize yet?
The sum of £250 will be paid to the sender of ten winning teams selected from those given on the coupon on this page. Should no competitor succeed in giving ten winning teams, the prize of £250 will be awarded to the sender of the next largest number of winning teams. This competition is open for one week and coupons can only be taken from this week's issue.

NO ENTRANCE FEE.—GREAT ONE-WEEK COMPETITION.

This competition is exclusive to "John Bull," and coupons do not appear in any other paper. There is no entrance fee of any kind. Competitors can send as many coupons as they like. Scottish and Irish readers may compete. A careful study of football form should be made before filling in coupons. The "National News" gives the best and most accurate reports and forecasts every Sunday, which should prove of great assistance to intending competitors.

Cut out coupon neatly and address all entries as follows:—**"Football Competition No. 19, JOHN BULL, 25, Floral Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2."** Write "Football" in top lefthand corner of envelope. All coupons can be enclosed in one envelope, but this must not contain entries for other competitions.
YOU CAN SEND AS MANY COUPONS AS YOU LIKE.

☞ For Result of Football Competition No. 16 see Page 16.

Read these Rules Carefully.

(1) All attempts must be made on coupons taken from the issue of JOHN BULL announcing this competition. Coupons must be written in ink (typewriting or pencil will not be allowed), and must be filled up in accordance with the instructions given on this page.

(2) The sum of £250 (Two Hundred and Fifty Pounds) will be paid to the sender of a coupon giving any ten winning teams from amongst those playing on January 24th, given on the coupon on this page and as set out on that coupon. If no competitor succeeds in giving ten winning teams the prize of £250 will be paid to the sender of the next largest number of winning teams as described above. If two or more competitors succeed in giving ten winning teams, or failing that, succeed in sending the next largest number of winning teams, the £250 will be divided equally amongst them.

(3) Should any match not be played to a finish on the date given or as set out on the coupon, it will be disregarded, and winning teams from the remaining fixtures only will be allowed to count.

(4) **Any coupon which has marked upon it more than ten Xs or less than ten Xs will be disqualified.**

(5) No responsibility will be accepted by the Editor for the loss or non-delivery of any coupon. Proof of posting will not be accepted as proof of delivery or receipt. No correspondence will be entered into nor will interviews be granted.

(6) Any coupon on which an alteration of any kind has been made will be disqualified.

(7) Our employees are debarred from entering the competition.

(8) Any coupons received later than first post on January 22nd will be disqualified.

(9) The Editor's decision must be accepted as final and legally binding in all matters concerning this competition, and acceptance of this rule is an express condition of entry.

☞ Don't Miss This—NEXT WEEK FOR ONE WEEK ONLY.
SPECIAL 2nd. ROUND F. A. CUP-TIE PRIZE.
£500—MUST BE WON FOR TEN WINNING TEAMS or next largest number of winning teams.

HOW TO MARK YOUR COUPONS.

If you think the "Home" team will win put a X in the left-hand column headed "Home Win"; If you think the "Away" team will win put a X in the right-hand column headed "Away Win." Only ten teams must be marked in all. **If more or less than ten X's appear on any one coupon it will be disqualified. Coupons MUST be written in ink.**

"JOHN BULL" FREE FOOTBALL COUPON.

Matches to be played Saturday, January 24th. Coupons must reach us not later than Thursday, January 22nd.

Home Win	Home Team		Away Team	Away Win
	The Arsenal	v.	Aston Villa	
	Blackburn Rovers	v.	Bradford	
	Bradford City	v.	Chelsea	
	Derby County	v.	Sheffield United	
	Everton	v.	Newcastle United	
	Manchester City	v.	Middlesbrough	
	Coventry City	v.	South Shields	
	Fulham	v.	Wolverhampton W.	
	Grimsby Town	v.	Barnsley	
	Huddersfield Town	v.	Tottenham Hotspur	
	Leicester City	v.	Hull City	
	Brighton and H.A.	v.	Plymouth Argyle	
	Crystal Palace	v.	Southend United	
	Newport County	v.	Merthyr Town	
	Northampton	v.	Norwich City	
	Swindon Town	v.	Reading	

☞ Coupons must be cut—not torn out.

I enter "John Bull" Football Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions on this page and agree to accept the Editor's decision as final and legally binding, and enter on that understanding.

SIGNED ....

19 ADDRESS..
....

CUT OUT ALL MIDDLE PROFITS.

Style No. 107. *Gent's fine Black Glacé Kid Lace Boot.* Patent toe-cap, Linen lined. Light but good quality sole. Goodyear stitched welt. Exceptional value

If not sure of size send outline of stockinged foot.

33/6 POST FREE

Style No. 107.

Sizes: 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 (Size 12, 1/- extra). Each size made in three different widths. No. 4 (Medium), No. 5 (Wide), No. 6 (Extra Wide).
Write for our List of other Styles.
THE MAXIMUM SHOE CO., Ltd., Dept. 70 Maximum Works, Northampton

45/-
Carr. paid!

2 Heavy Blankets
2 Twill Sheets
2 Pillow Cases
1 Bolster Case
2 Long Curtains
1 Tablecloth (*free*)

MOST WONDERFUL BARGAIN EVER OFFERED TO THE PUBLIC

Pair of English made full double bed size heavy white Blankets.
Pair of Lancashire woven full double bed size grey Twill Sheets.
Two hemmed white bleached Pillow Cases (buttoned and turned in edges).
One hemmed white bleached Bolster Case (buttoned and turned in edges).
Pair of heavy floral pat. real Nottingham long Lace Curtains (white or ecru).
One hemmed and finished lovely designed damask Tablecloth (free).

This splendid Bargain Sale sent Carriage Paid any address (British Isles) for only 45/- Money returned if goods are not satisfactory.

Don't Delay—Send Remittance at once and secure this genuine offer.

The Milton Drapery Stores (Dept. 4), Padiham, Lancs.

Hindes

HAIR TINT FOR GREY OR FADED HAIR.

Tints grey or faded hair any natural shade desired — brown, dark-brown, light-brown or black. It is permanent and washable, has no grease, and does not burn the hair. It is used by over three-quarters of a million people. A Medical Certificate accompanies each bottle. Of all Chemists, Stores, and Hairdressers, **2/6 the Flask,** or direct from HINDES Ltd., 1, Tabernacle Street, City, London.

Patentees and Manufacturers of the World-Famous Hindes Wavers.

'FLU' POWDERS PREVENT COLDS
Prevention is better than cure.
"FLU" POWDER
For the prevention and speedy cure of Feverish Colds, Sore Throats, Aching Pains in the Head and Limbs, Influenza. Invaluable for Malaria.
Obtainable only from
A. L. PETERS, M.P.S., Armley, LEEDS.
6 Powders Post Free **1/-** Send P.O. at once, and cure your cold in one day. Safe and Sure.

The SUPER BRAND **Spinet** MIXTURE AND CIGARETTES

For over 40 years a reliable remedy for Pains in the Back, Lumbago, Dropsy, Gravel, Bright's Disease of the Kidneys, Gout, Wind and Water Ailments, Sciatica, and Rheumatism.

HOLDROYDS PILLS

HUNDREDS OF TESTIMONIALS.
all Chemists, 1/3 Post Free 14 Stamps.
PREPARED ONLY AT
HOLDROYD'S MEDICAL HALL, CLECKHEATON, Yorks.

Patterns free
The only floor covering saving work and money. Ask for Set No. 19, Catesbys Ltd., London, W. 1.
Cork Lino

BRITISH SCHOOL OF ADVERTISING
LEARN TO WRITE ADVERTISEMENTS.
Opportunities are many and salaries good for the Trained Advertisement Writer.
COMPLETE CORRESPONDENCE COURSE.
Prospectus post free.
Dept. 5, 82, New Oxford Street, London, W.C.1.

LAWRENCE'S LAVENDER HAIR DESTROYER
In every way the MOST PERFECT and GENUINE CURE for SUPERFLUOUS HAIR yet discovered. New Method. NOT A DEPILATORY. A harmless fragrant liquid which slowly but surely eradicates any growth.
Post free, 10/6. Test sample 1/-
HELEN LAWRENCE, 167A, Kensington High Street, London, W.8

THERE IS ONLY ‸ONE CURE FOR STOMACH & BOWEL INDIGESTION

CICFA IS THAT ‸ONE CURE

INDIGESTION—however chronic—can be cured.

Sufferers from indigestion endeavour to obtain relief:—

(1) By Starvation.
(2) By taking Pepsine mixtures.
(3) By taking Purgatives.

Three serious mistakes are [illegible].

STARVATION IS HARMFUL.

When the digestive organs of the body have ceased performing their natural functions you will not help them by giving them nothing to do. What they want is work and nourishment, not idleness.

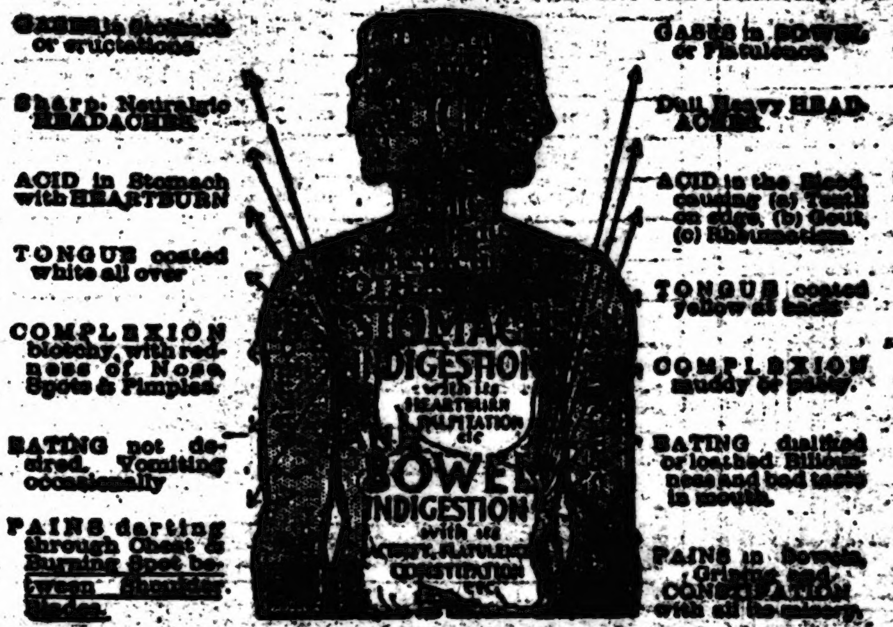
PEPSINE MIXTURES are no good for the following reasons:—Only one-quarter of the food is digested in the Stomach, the rest is digested in the Bowel. Pepsine digests food in the Stomach, but does not digest the starchy food in the Bowel. It is, therefore, useless in Bowel Indigestion.

BOWEL INDIGESTION.—[illegible] of the food is digested in the Bowel. Food when undigested in the Bowel ferments, and also produces gases and [illegible] acids, the gases cause Flatulence, bloating and [illegible].

These impurities are absorbed into the blood and carried to every part of the system, producing foul breath, coated tongue, [illegible] of the head, biliousness, loss of [illegible], profound depression.

CICFA is a combination of digestive Ferments which ensures prompt Stomach Digestion, then prompt Duodenal Digestion with removal of heaviness at pit of stomach; continued digestion all down the tract, and absorption of digested nourishment throughout. Constipation steadily grows less.

Instead of taking Soda, Magnesia, or other alkalis to neutralise Uric Acid in the blood for the cure of Rheumatism, Gout, etc., you should **PREVENT THE FORMATION OF THE URIC ACID** by ensuring complete digestion of the food, followed by complete oxidation and assimilation, for in that way you prevent the formation of excessive Uric Acid, which so often causes Rheumatism, Gout, etc. CICFA ensures such complete digestion of the food. That is why so many persons are surprised to find that when CICFA cures their Indigestion their Rheumatism has also gone.


GASES in Stomach or eructations.
Sharp Neuralgic HEADACHES.
ACID in Stomach with HEARTBURN
TONGUE coated white all over
COMPLEXION blotchy, with redness of Nose, Spots & Pimples.
EATING not desired. Vomiting occasionally
PAINS darting through Chest & Burning Spot between Shoulder Blades.
STOMACH INDIGESTION with its HEARTBURN PALPITATION etc
BOWEL INDIGESTION with its ACIDITY, FLATULENCE CONSTIPATION etc.
GASES in BOWEL or Flatulence.
Dull Heavy HEADACHES.
ACID in the Blood causing (a) Teeth on edge, (b) Gout, (c) Rheumatism.
TONGUE coated yellow at back.
COMPLEXION muddy or pasty.
EATING disliked or loathed. Biliousness and bad taste in mouth.
PAINS in Bowels, Griping and CONSTIPATION with all its misery.

CICFA AND PURGATIVES

entirely unlike each other.

Constipation cannot be cured by taking Purgatives, but only by restoring the natural working of the digestive glands, thus ensuring complete digestion of the albuminous food in the Stomach as well as digestion of the starchy food in the Bowel. When this is completed during the night, there will be no hard masses known as "Starch Balls" with Fermentation, Flatulence, and Constipation in the morning.

PURGATIVES give temporary relief, only to increase the trouble afterwards. Purgatives do not digest food, they simply expel it, nourishment and all, and the Bowel grows weaker and weaker.

YOU ASK—Is there, then, any medicine which can cure Indigestion?

WE ANSWER—Yes, a medicine which has the power of digesting the Albuminous food in the Stomach, and the starchy food, etc., in the Bowel, which will also restore the Bile Circulation and the natural powers of the digestive glands. A remedy which possesses these powers cannot fail to cure, because such a remedy removes the causes of Indigestion and then there can be no Acidity, Flatulence or Constipation, or any of those distressing indigestion symptoms. There is only one remedy which contains that wonderful combination of Digestive Ferments which possesses that power, and that remedy is CICFA.

READ CAREFULLY

How CICFA Cures

Stomach & Bowel Indigestion.

STOMACH INDIGESTION occurs when the food, not being digested immediately by the Gastric Juice, begins to ferment. In a short time this food becomes so foul that it cannot be digested. Hence the formation of foul gases and acrid acids which irritate the nerves and often cause Heartburn; the gases cause stomach pressure, heart palpitation, neuralgic headaches, vomiting and a burning spot behind the left shoulder blade, so that many often fancy they have heart disease.

16,000 British Doctors

have taken up Cicfa. Very many of them have written us privately of the splendid results which they have obtained by its use. When thousands of British doctors are satisfied with Cicfa, you do not need a sample with which to test it. There can be no better proof. You can proceed to take it at once.

Purchase from your chemist (all Chemists sell Cicfa at 1s. 3d. and 3s.) or if there is delay, from us, on receipt of Postal Order.

THE CICFA COMPANY,

8A, DUKE ST., MANCHESTER SQ., LONDON.

Cicfa in Canada, 50 Cent Size from Capsuloid Co., Brockville, Ontario.

Cicfa in United States, 50 Cent size from Capsuloid Co., Morristown, New York State.

JOHN BULL, 17/1/20.

RAINCOATS [illegible]/6

[illegible] are not satisfied, [illegible] we are constantly [illegible] Fashion-Craft Raincoats are the best [illegible]

[illegible] made up in strict rotation and sent [illegible]

[illegible] for full range of patterns and latest Style Book No. 59.

Any style can be full fleece lined, and a fleece lined Raincoat is warm as an overcoat, lighter in weight, and Rainproof.

FASHION-CRAFT MILLS, LTD.,

REGD. OFFICES: 32, Victoria St., MANCHESTER.

PLAYING WITH FIRE.

The risk of catching Venereal Disease is a great one, greater than many people imagine. Any man who consorts with a woman other than his wife, any woman who allows liberties from any man but her husband is playing with fire, a fire that can burn physically with intense pain as well as consume fondest hopes and ambitions.

Many people are suffering to-day from painful troubles which are the direct result of venereal infection. Temptation has somehow or other come upon them. Either the curse of curiosity or the momentary surrender of self-control has opened the way to infection. They have exchanged a fleeting pleasure for the possibilities of a permanent disease. They have indulged in a fool's game, in a gamble where the dice are loaded against them.

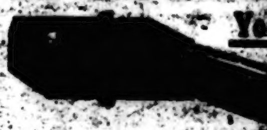
Should any exposure to infection have taken place or be suspected, prompt medical attention is the only safe course. To consult quacks is greatly to increase the risk.

All who are infected or who have taken a risk of infection should seek medical advice at once. Go to your own doctor, or apply at the Out-Patients Department of the nearest Hospital, where treatment will be given free, under conditions of secrecy.

Those who are in any doubt or difficulty should write in confidence for information and free literature to N.C.C.V.D., 34, Avenue Chambers, Vernon Place, Southampton Row, London, W.C.1, marking the envelope "Medical." The National Council provides neither prescriptions nor drugs.

This announcement is issued by the National Council for combating Venereal Diseases a responsible body recognized by the Government. President: Rt. Hon. Lord Sydenham. Vice-Presidents: Sir Thomas Barlow, Bart., K.C.V.O., M.D., Sir Francis Champneys, Bart., M.D. Chairman of Propaganda: Sir Malcolm Morris, K.C.V.O., F.R.C.S.E. General Secretary: Mrs. A. C. Gotto, O.B.E.

A Secret Safe



You alone know where it is.

Only £2 [illegible]

[illegible]

OWING TO THE ENORMOUS SUCCESS OF

THE GOLDEN BALLOT

Tickets 5/-

IN AID OF SETTLEMENTS FOR

Disabled Sailors & Soldiers

(Registered under the War Charities Act),

THE FOLLOWING CASH PRIZES HAVE BEEN ADDED SINCE THE NEW YEAR:—

5 Prizes of £100.
10 Prizes of £50.
20 Prizes of £20.
100 Prizes of £10.

THERE ARE NOW

Three Hundred Valuable Prizes,

INCLUDING:—

1st Prize, £2,500
2nd Prize, £1,000 or Lease of a London House
3rd Prize, A Motor Car
4th Prize, A Pearl Necklace, priced at £900
5th Prize, £500

And 140 Additional CASH PRIZES to the value of £2,510.

Also Furniture, Jewellery, Men's and Women's Costumes to Order, Wines, Cigars, Cigarettes, Trips Abroad, Weekly Luncheons, and Weekly Flowers and Vegetables for a year.

Closing Date, April 29th, 1920.

Tickets, 5/- each, are on sale at all the Keith Prowse Offices, at the Lep-Aerial Travel Bureau, Piccadilly Circus (Criterion Corner), and at 8, Marble Arch, W.1.

ALL POSTAL Applications should be addressed to Mrs. C. F. LEYEL, 8, Marble Arch, W.1.

COUPON.—WRITE PLAINLY IN INK, and cross your Postal Order.

Letters to be addressed to Mrs. C. F. Leyel (Desk 27), 8, Marble Arch, London, W.1.

Please post to me.................... tickets for THE GOLDEN BALLOT, for which I enclose

P.O. value....................

NAME (in full)....................

ADDRESS....................

J.B. Jan. 17.

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